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For the Saturday Evening Post.

VICISSITUDE OF HUMAN FEELINGS.

How hid from mortal sight the deep laid springs,
Which move the mind, and give its various tones;
Not less conceal'd are the unnumbered links
Of love and undefined sympathies
Which govern all the feelings of the heart.—
All are the works of an unbounded love,
Who bestow'd a portion of that love through all—
Hence every sight or sound howe'er remote,
Affect each sense inseparably link'd,
By that divine assimilating love.—
Now dismal dullness darkens all the mind,
Too weary to take up one cumb'rous thought;
Now bright for action, all her powers awake,
With piercing glance she scans terrestrial things,
And feels her kindred to celestial forms!—
Now sad and sorrowful a thick'ning gloom,
Surrounds the heart which no faint ray pervades;—
Now a full flow of unsought gaiety,
Diffusive spreads, touches each pulse of joy,
And stirs to action every laughing power—
Now all the swelling harmonies of spring,
Wake no emotion in the callous breast,
Which feels no pleasure in another's bliss,
Nor sympathizes with them in their woe.
Now all alive the active feelings catch
The spirits which pervades the opening spring,
While warmer sympathies play round the heart,
Which claims a brotherhood with all mankind,
And feels a spring of love for all that lives.—
That the unequal mind feels constant lapse,
From stupid dullness to perception keen,
From sadness to an airy cheerfulness,
And from cold torpor to fraternal love.—
The thread is fine but never can be broke,
By which the intellectual powers are link'd
To the perceptions by external sense:—
Some outward object strikes the roving eye,
Some sound rolls on the ever open ear,
Or sense of pain or pleasure thrills the nerves;
Twice unperceived it winds its surest way,
Through the mix'd maze of undefined thought
And half form'd feelings, touching every pulse,
Still gathering strength, till the contagion gains
A full ascendance o'er the subject mind,
And occupies and quite absorbs the heart,
Buoyant with pleasure or in sadness sunk—
And often e're the effect is fully felt,
The secret cause has fairly disappear'd;
Else why the langour that my spirits feel,
E'en now when no immediate cause of woe
Preys on the heart with influence direct;
But all appears to reason's sober eye
To wear the self-same hue which late it had,
When active fancy felt alive to all,
The wide spread beauties of the opening year;
And cheerful hope saw in succession long,
The coming years of sober happiness.
Then life rose high and overflow'd the heart,
And thence impell'd, through all the circling veins
The swelling gladness ran, lightening each limb
Which once again with youthful buoyancy,
And smooth elastic ease performs its part—
How pleasant would the streams of life glide on,
Did we but always feel this consciousness,
That every mental and corporeal power,
Was strong for use, acting in unison
And harmonising with the mighty whole.
Thus would it be if man had never err'd,
Broke the wise order of omnipotence,
Dissolv'd the chain of universal love,
And purchas'd pain and sorrow for his race.
Then had he liv'd exempt from grief and pain,
And age alone dissolv'd his worn-out powers,
While the freed mind releas'd from earth's concerns
And ripe for heaven, true to its kind would rise,
Approaching still that state of perfect bliss,
Re-union with the God from whence it sprung.—

A FRIEND.

From the Knickerbocker.

THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH.

That very singular man, old Dr. Heidegger, once invited four venerable friends to meet him in his study. There were three white-bearded gentlemen, Mr. Medbourne, Colonel Killigrew, and Mr. Gascoigne, and a withered gentlewoman, whose name was the Widow Wycherly. They were all melancholy old creatures, who had been unfortunate in life, and whose greatest misfortune it was, that they were not long ago in their graves. Mr. Medbourne, in the vigor of his age, had been a prosperous merchant, but had lost his all by a frantic speculation, and was now little better than a mendicant. Colonel Killigrew had wasted his best years, and his health and substance, in the pursuit of sinful pleasures, which had given birth to a brood of pains, such as the gout, and divers other torments of soul and body. Mr. Gascoigne was a ruined politician, a man of evil fame, or at least had been so, till time had buried him from the knowledge of the present generation, and made him obscure instead of infamous. As for the Widow Wycherly, tradition tells us that she was a great beauty in her day; but, for a long while past, she had lived in deep seclusion, on account of certain scandalous stories, which had prejudiced the gentry of the town against her. It is a circumstance worth mentioning, that each of these three old gentlemen, Mr. Medbourne, Col. Killigrew, and Mr. Gascoigne, were early lovers of the Widow Wycherly, and had once been on the point of cutting each other's throats for her sake. And, before proceeding farther, I will merely hint, that Dr. Heidegger and all his four guests were sometimes thought to be a little beside themselves; as is not unfrequently the case with old people when worried either by present troubles or woful recollections.

'My dear old friends,' said Dr. Heidegger, motioning them to be seated, 'I am desirous of your assistance in one of those little experiments with which I amuse myself here in my study.'

If all stories were true, Dr. Heidegger's study must have been a very curious place. It was a dim old-fashioned chamber, festooned with cobwebs and besprinkled with antique dust. Around the walls stood several oaken book cases, the lower shelves of which were filled with rows of gigantic folios, and black leather quartos, and the upper with little parchment duodecimos. Over the central book case was a bronze bust of Hippocrates, with which, according to some authorities, Dr. Heidegger was accustomed to hold consultations, in all difficult cases of his practice. In the obscured corner of the room stood a tall and narrow oaken closet, with its door ajar, within which doubtfully appeared a skeleton. Between two of the book cases hung a looking-glass, presenting its high and dusty plate within a tarnished gilt frame. Among many wonderful stories related of this mirror, it was fabled that the spirits of all the Doctor's deceased patients dwelt within its verge, and could stare him in the face whenever he looked thitherward. The opposite side of the chamber was ornamented with the full length portrait of a young lady, arrayed in the faded magnificence of silk, satin, and brocade, and with a visage as faded as her dress. Above half a century ago, Dr. Heidegger had been on the point of marriage with this young lady; but, being affected with some slight disorder, she had swallowed one of her lover's prescriptions, and died on the bridal evening. The greatest curiosity of the study remains to be mentioned; it was a ponderous folio volume, bound in black leather, with massive silver clasps. There were no letters on the back, and nobody could tell the title of the book. But it was well known to be a book of magic; and once, when a chambermaid had lifted it, merely to brush away the dust, the skeleton rattled in its closet, the picture of the young lady had stepped one foot upon the floor, and several ghastly faces had peeped forth from the mirror; while the brazen head of Hippocrates frowned, and said—'Forbear!'

Such was Dr. Heidegger's study. On the summer afternoon of our tale, a small round table, as black as ebony, stood in the centre of the room, sustaining a cut glass vase, of beautiful form and elaborate workmanship. The sunshine came through the window, between the heavy festoons of two faded damask curtains, and fell directly across the vase; so that a mild splendor was reflected from it on the ashen visages of the five old people who sat around. Four champagne glasses were also on the table.

'My dear old friends,' repeated Dr. Heidegger, 'may I reckon on your aid in performing an exceedingly curious experiment?'

Now Heidegger was a very strange old gentleman, whose eccentricity had become the nucleus for a thousand fantastic stories. Some of these fables, to my shame be it spoken, might possibly be traced back to mine own veracious self; and if any passages of the present tale should startle the reader's faith, I must be content to bear the stigma of a fiction-monger.

When the Doctor's four guests heard him talk of his proposed experiment, they anticipated nothing more wonderful than the murder of a mouse in an air-pump, or the examination of a cobweb by the microscope, or some similar nonsense, with which he was constantly in the habit of pestering his intimates. But, without waiting for a reply, Dr. Heidegger hobbled across the chamber and returned with the same ponderous folio, bound in black leather, which common report affirmed to be a book of magic. Undoing the silver clasps, he opened the volume, and took from among the black letter pages a rose, or what was once a rose, though now the green leaves and crimson petals had assumed one brownish hue, and the ancient flower seemed ready to crumble to dust in the Doctor's hands.

'This rose,' said Dr. Heidegger, with a sigh, 'this same withered and crumbling flower, blossomed five and fifty years ago. It was given me by Sylvia Ward whose portrait hangs yonder; and I meant to wear it in my bosom at our wedding.—Five and fifty years it has been treasured between the leaves of this old volume. Now would you deem it possible that this rose of half a century could ever bloom again?'

'Nonsense!' said the Widow Wycherly, with a peevish toss of her head. 'You might as well ask whether an old woman's wrinkled face could ever bloom again.' 'See!' answered Dr. Heidegger.

He uncovered the vase and threw the faded rose into the water which it contained. At first it lay lightly on the surface of the fluid, appearing to imbibe none of its moisture. Soon, however, a singular change began to be visible. The crushed and dried petals stirred, and assumed a deepening tinge of crimson, as if the flower were reviving from a death-like slumber; the slender stalk and twigs of foliage became green; and there was the rose of half a century, looking as fresh as when Sylvia Ward had first given it to her lover. It was scarcely full-blown; for some of its delicate red leaves curled modestly around its moist bosom, within which two or three dew drops were sparkling.

'This is certainly a very pretty deception,' said the Doctor's friends; carelessly, however, for they had witnessed greater miracles at a conjurer's show; 'pray how was it effected?'

'Did you ever hear of the Fountain of Youth?' asked Dr. Heidegger, 'which Ponce De Leon, the Spanish adventurer, went in search of two or three centuries ago.'

'But did Ponce De Leon ever find it?' said the Widow Wycherly.

'No,' answered Dr. Heidegger, 'for he never sought it in the right place. The Famous Fountain of Youth, if I am rightly informed, is situated in the southern part of the Floridian peninsula, not far from Lake Macao. Its source is overshadowed by several gigantic magnolias, which, though numberless centuries old, have been kept as fresh as violets, by the virtues of this wonderful water. An acquaintance of mine, knowing my curiosity in such matters, has sent me what you see in the vase.'

'Ahem!' said Colonel Killigrew, who believed not a word of the Doctor's story; 'and what may be the effect of this fluid on the human frame?'

'You shall judge for yourself, my dear Col.' replied Dr. Heidegger, 'and all of you, my respected friends, are welcome to so much of this admirable fluid, as may restore you to the bloom of youth. For my own part, having had much trouble in growing old, I am in no hurry to grow young again. With your permission, therefore, I will merely watch the progress of the experiment.'

While he spoke, Dr. Heidegger had been filling the four champagne glasses with the water of the Fountain of Youth. It was apparently impregnated with an effervescent gas, for little bubbles were continually ascending from the depths of the glasses, and bursting in silvery spray at the surface. As the liquor diffused a pleasant perfume, the old people doubted not that it possessed cordial and comfortable properties; and, though utter skeptics as to its rejuvenescent power, they were inclined to swallow it at once. But Dr. Heidegger besought them to stay a moment.

'Before you drink, my respectable old friends,' said he, 'it would be well that, with the experience of a life-time to direct you, you should draw up a few general rules for your guidance, in passing a second time through the perils of youth. Think what a sin and shame it would be, if, with your peculiar advantages, you should not become patterns of virtue and wisdom to all the young people of the age!'

The Doctor's four venerable friends made him no answer, except by a feeble and tremulous laugh; so very ridiculous was the idea, that, knowing how closely repentance treads behind the steps of error, they should ever go astray again.

'Drink, drink,' said the Doctor bowing: 'I rejoice that I have so well selected the subjects of my experiment.'

With palsied hands they raised the glasses to their lips. The liquor, if it really possessed such virtues as Dr. Heidegger imputed to it, could not have been bestowed on four human beings who needed it more wofully. They looked as if they had never known what youth or pleasure was, but had been the offspring of nature's dotage, and always the gray, decrepit, sapless, miserable creatures, who now sat stooping round the Doctor's table, without life enough in their souls or bodies to be animated even by the prospect of growing young again. They drank off the water, and replaced their glasses on the table.

Assuredly there was an almost immediate improvement in the aspect of the party, not unlike what might have been produced by a glass of generous wine, together with a sudden glow of cheerful sunshine, brightening over all their visages at once. There was a healthful suffusion on their cheeks, instead of the ashen hue that had made them look so corpse-like. They gazed at one another, and fancied that some magic power had really begun to smooth away the deep and sad inscriptions which Father Time had been so long engraving on their brows.—The Widow Wycherly adjusted her cap, for she felt almost like a woman again.

'Give us more of this wondrous water!' cried they eagerly. 'We are younger—but we are still too old! Quick!—give us more!'

'Patience, patience!' quoth Dr. Heidegger, who sat watching the experiment, with philosophic coolness. 'You have been a long time growing old. Surely, you might be content to grow young in half an hour! But the water is at your service!'

Again he filled their glasses with the liquor of youth, enough of which still remained in the vase, to turn half the old people in the city to the age of their own grand-children. While the bubbles were yet sparkling on the brim, the Doctor's four guests snatched their glasses from the table, and swallowed the contents at a single gulp. Was it delusion!—Even while the draught was passing down their throats, it seemed to have wrought a change on their whole systems. Their eyes grew clear and bright; a dark shade deepened among their silvery locks, they sat around the table, three gentlemen of middle age; and a woman, hardly beyond her buxom prime.

'My dear widow, you are charming!' cried Colonel Killigrew, whose eyes had been fixed upon her face, while the shadows of age were flitting from it like darkness from the crimson day-break.

The fair widow knew, of old, that Colonel Killigrew's compliments were not always measured by sober truth; so she started up and ran to the mirror, still dreading that the ugly visage of an old woman would meet her gaze. Meanwhile, the three gentlemen behaved in such a manner, as proved that the water of the Fountain of Youth possessed some intoxicating qualities; unless, indeed, their exhilaration of spirits were merely a lightsome dizziness, caused by the sudden removal of the weight of years. Mr. Gascoigne's mind seemed to run on political topics, but whether relating to the past, present, or future, could not easily be determined, since the same ideas and phrases have been in vogue these fifty years. Now he rattled forth full-throated sentences about patriotism, national glory, and the people's rights; now he muttered some perilous stuff or other, in a sly and doubtful whisper, so cautiously that even his own conscience could scarcely catch the secret; and now, again, he spoke in measured accents, and a deeply deferential tone, as if a royal ear were listening to his well turned periods. Colonel Killigrew all this time had been trolling forth a jolly bottle song, and ringing his glass in symphony with the chorus, while his eyes wandered toward the buxom figure of the Widow Wycherly. On the other side of the table, Mr. Medbourne was involved in a calculation of dollars and cents, with which was strangely intermingled a project for supplying the East Indies with ice, by harnessing a team of whales to the polar ice bergs.

As for the Widow Wycherly, she stood before the mirror, curtseying and simpering to her own image, and greeting it as the friend whom she loved better than all the world beside. She thrust her face close to the glass, to see whether some long remembered wrinkle or crow's foot had indeed vanished. She examined whether the snow had so entirely melted from her hair, that the venerable cap could be safely thrown aside. At last, turning briskly away, she came with a sort of dancing step to the table.

'My dear old Doctor,' cried she, 'pray favor me with another glass!'

'Certainly, my dear madam, certainly!' replied the complaisant Doctor; 'see! I have already filled the glasses.'

There, in fact, stood the four glasses, brim full of this wonderful water, the delicate spray of which, as it effervesced from the surface, resembled the tremulous glitter of diamonds. It was now so nearly sunset, that the chamber had grown duskier than ever; but a mild and moon-like splendour gleamed from within the vase, and rested alike on the four guests, and on the Doctor's venerable figure. He sat in a high-backed, elaborately-carved, oaken arm-chair, with a gray dignity of aspect that might have well befitted that very Father Time, whose power had never been disputed, save by this fortunate company. Even while quaffing the third draught of the Fountain of Youth, they were almost awed by the expression of his mysterious visage.

But the next moment the exhilarating gush of young life shot through their veins. They were now in the happy prime of youth. Age, with its miserable train of cares, and sorrows, and diseases, was remembered only as the trouble of a dream, from which they had joyously awoke. The fresh gloss of the soul, so early lost; and without which the world's successive scenes had been but a gallery of faded pictures, again threw its enchantment over all their prospects. They felt like new-created beings in a new-created universe.

'We are young! We are young!' they cried exultingly.

Youth, like the extremity of age, had effaced the strongly marked characteristics of middle life, and mutually assimilated them all. They were a group of merry youngsters, almost maddened with the exuberant foolishness of their years. The most singular of their gaiety was an impulse to mock the infirmity and decrepitude of which they had so lately been the victims. They laughed loudly at their old-fashioned attire, the wide-skirted coats and flapped waistcoats of the young men, and the ancient cap and gown of the blooming girl. One limped across the floor, like a gouty grand-father; one set a pair of spectacles astride of his nose, and pretended to pore over the black-letter pages of the book of magic; a third seated himself in an arm-chair, and strove to imitate the venerable dignity of Dr. Heidegger. Then all shouted mirthfully, and leaped about the room. The Widow Wycherly—if so fresh a damsel could be called a widow—tripped up to the Doctor's chair, with a mischievous merriment in her rosy face.

'Doctor, you dear old soul,' cried she, 'get up, and dance with me!' And then the four young people laughed louder than ever, to think what a queer figure the poor old Doctor would cut.

'Pray excuse me,' answered the doctor, quietly, 'I am old and rheumatic, and my dancing days were over long ago. But either of these gay young gentlemen will be glad of so pretty a partner.'

'Dance with me, Clara!' cried Colonel Killigrew. 'No, no, I will be her partner!' shouted Mr. Gascoigne. 'She promised me her hand, fifty years ago!' exclaimed Mr. Medbourne.

They all gathered round her. One caught both her hands in his passionate grasp—another threw his arm about her waist—the third buried his hand among the glossy curls that clustered beneath the widow's cap. Blushing, panting, struggling, chiding, laughing, her warm breath fanning each of their faces by turns, she strove to disengage herself, yet still remained in their triple embrace. Never was there a livelier picture of youthful rivalship, with bewitching beauty for the prize. Yet, by a strange deception, owing to the duskiness of the chamber, and the antique dresses which they still wore, the tall mirror is said to have reflected the figures of three old, gray, withered grandsires, ridiculously contending for the skinny ugliness of a shrivelled grand dam.

But they were young: their burning passions proved them so. Inflamed to madness by the coquetry of the girl-widow, who neither granted nor quite withheld her favors, the three rivals began to interchange threatening glances. Still keeping hold of the fair prize, they grappled fiercely at one another's throats. As they struggled to and fro, the table was overturned, and the vase dashed into a thousand fragments. The precious Water of Youth flowed in a bright stream across the floor, moistening the wings of a butterfly, which, grown old in the decline of summer, had alighted there to die. The insect fluttered lightly through the chamber, and settled on the snowy head of Dr. Heidegger.

'Come, come, gentlemen!—come, Madam Wycherly,' exclaimed the Doctor, 'I really must protest against this riot.'

They stood still, and shivered; for it seemed as if gray Time was calling them back from their sunny youth, far down into the chill and darksome vale of years. They looked at old Dr. Heidegger, who sat in his carved arm chair, holding the rose of half a century, which he had rescued from among the fragments of the shattered vase. At the motion of his hand, the four rioters resumed their seats; the more readily, because their violent exertions had wearied them, youthful though they were.

'My poor Sylvia's rose!' ejaculated Dr. Heidegger, holding it in the light of the sunset clouds: 'it appears to be fading again.'

And so it was. Even while the party were looking at it, the flower continued to shrivel up, till it became as dry and fragile as when the Doctor had first thrown it into the vase. He shook off the few drops of moisture which clung to its petals.

'I love it as well thus, as in its dewy freshness,' observed he, pressing the withered rose to his withered lips. While he spoke, the butterfly fluttered down from the Doctor's snowy head, and fell upon the floor.

His guests shivered again. A strange chillness, whether of the body or spirit they could not tell, was creeping gradually over them all. They gazed at one another, and fancied that each fleeting moment snatched away a charm, and left a deepening furrow where none had been before. Was it an illusion? Had the changes of a life-time been crowded into so brief a space, and were they now four aged people, sitting with their old friend, Dr. Heidegger?

'Are we grown old again, so soon!' cried they, dolefully.

In truth, they had. The Water of Youth possessed merely a virtue as transient as that of wine. The delirium which it created had effervesced away. Yes! they were old again. With a shuddering impulse, that showed her a woman still, the widow clasped her skinny hands before her face, and wished that the coffin lid were over it, since it could be no longer beautiful.

'Yes, friends, ye are old again,' said Dr. Heidegger; 'and lo! the Water of Youth is all lavished on the ground. Well—I bemoan it not; for if the fountain gushed at my very door-step, I would not stoop to bathe my lips in it—no, though its delirium were for years instead of moments. Such is the lesson ye have taught me!'

But the Doctor's four friends had taught no such lesson to themselves. They resolved forthwith to make a pilgrimage to Florida, and quaff at morning, noon and night, from the Fountain of Youth.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

MELANCHOLY.

There is a mighty spirit known on earth
By many names, tho' one alone becomes
Its mystery, its beauty, and its power.
It is not fear—'tis not the passive dread
That sinks before the future, nor the dark
Despondency that hangs upon the past;
Not the soft spirit that doth bow to pain,
Nor that which dreads itself, or slowly eats
Like a dull canker, 'till the heart decays.
But in the meditative mind it lives
Shelter'd, caress'd, and yields a great return;
And in the deep and high communion
Which it holds ever with the poet's soul,
Tempers, and doth befit him to obey
High inspirations. To the storms and winds
It giveth answer in as proud a tone,
Or on its seat, the heart of man, receive
The gentler tidings of the elements.
I—often home returning from a spot
Holy to me from many wanderings
Of fancy, or in fact, have felt the power
Of *Melancholy*, stealing on my soul,
Mingling with pleasant images, and from
Sorrow dividing joy, until the shape
Of each did gather a diviner hue,
And shone, unclouded by a thought of pain.
Grief may sublime itself, and pluck the sting
From out its breast, and muse until it seem
Etherial, starry, speculative wise;
But then it is that Melancholy comes
Out, charming grief, (as the grey morning stills
The tempest oft;) and from its fitful fire
Draws a pale light, by which we see ourselves,
The present, and the future, and the past.

SEPTIMUS.

From the Chinese Repository.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY OF PEKING.

Peking, the capital of the Chinese empire, stands on a vast plain, in the interior of Chih-le, (or Pihchih-le,) the most northern province of China Proper. It is situated in latitude 39 dg. 55 min. north, and in longitude 116 dg. 45 min. east from Greenwich, and about 3 dg. 30 min. east of Canton. On the east and south, the low and sandy plain extends farther than the eye can reach; on the west and north, hills begin to rise above the plain only a few miles from the walls of the city; and at a distance beyond, the prospect is bounded by mountains which separate the province of Chih-le from Mantouch.—Viewed from the summit of those mountains, the city appears as if situated in the midst of a thick forest; this effect is produced by the clusters of trees that cover the villages, temples, and numerous cemetries which encompass the capital. From the great wall, which passes along upon this ridge of mountains, Peking is about fifty or sixty miles distant; and a little more than a hundred from the gulph of Chih-le. The Pih-ho, rising in the north beyond the great wall, flows within twelve miles of the city on the east, and then passes down in a south-east direction by Teen-tsin into the sea. Several smaller rivers, issuing from the mountains on the north-west, water a part of the plain; and one of them, which is called the Tung-hwuy, descends to the city and supplies its numerous canals and tanks; it then flows eastward, and uniting with one of the larger river forms an extensive water communication by which provisions are conveyed to the capital.

Peking or Pih-king, "the northern capital," is regarded by the Chinese as one of their most ancient cities; its early history, however, is involved in obscurity. The imperial court has been repeatedly removed from one province to another, having been held in Shen-se, Ho-nan, and in other more southern provinces. The first monarch of the Yuen dynasty, who ascended the throne in A. D. 1279, kept his court for several years at the capital of Shan-se; but subsequently removed to Shun-teen-foo, the principal department of the province of Chih-le, and the present site of Peking. Hung-woo, the first emperor of the Ming family, established the seat of his government at Keang-ning-foo, the principal department of the province of Keang-nan, and hence styled Nan-king, "the southern capital;" but Young-lo, the third monarch of the same line, removed it to Peking, where it has remained to the present time. On native maps the city is not usually denominated Pih-king, but King-sze, "the residence of the court." Since the foundations of the city were first laid, it has undergone many changes in its extent and form. For a long period it was surrounded only by a single wall, and had nine gates, and hence even to the present day, it is spoken of as "the city of nine gates. At a later period it was extended toward the south by a new wall, between the old and the new city. At the present time, the northern division is called nuy-ching, "the inner city," and the southern, wae-ching, "the outer city;" and as in the case of Canton, the northern part is frequently denominated the Tartar city. The new wall which surrounds the outer city, or southern division of Peking, has seven gates.

The northern division of the city is nearly in the form of a parallelogram; of which the four sides face the four cardinal points; it extends from north to south about four miles, and from east to west three, having an area of twelve square miles. The southern division extends from east to west nearly six miles, and two and a half from north to south, occupying an area of about fifteen miles. Thus the entire circumference of Peking may be estimated at nearly twenty-five miles, and its area at twenty-seven square miles.

The walls of the northern division of the city, according to Barrow, are thirty feet in height, twenty-five feet in breadth at the base, and twelve at the top. The inclination is chiefly on the inner side, the outer side is smooth and nearly perpendicular. Near the gates, the walls are faced with marble or granite, but in other places with large bricks, laid in mortar which is made of lime and clay, and in process of time becomes almost as hard and durable as granite." The intermediate space between the inner and outer surfaces of the wall is filled with the earth and clay that was dug from the ditch which surrounds the city. On the outer side of the walls, square towers projecting about fifty feet from the line of the wall and of the same height with it, are built at the distance of about sixty yards from each other. Two such towers, of equal height with the walls, stands one on each side of every gate, and are connected in front by a semi circular fort. The arches of the gate are strong, being built of stone; they are surmounted by large wooden buildings several stories high.—On the inside of the wall, at the side of every gate, also near the middle of the interval between the gates, and at the several corners of the city, there is a species of esplanade for ascending to the top of the wall. A ditch surrounds the whole city, which is supplied from the waters of the Tung-hwuy river; with this ditch others are connected, by which the waters are conducted to all the principal parts of this great metropolis.

To the stranger approaching the city of Peking, its lofty walls and towers give it an imposing appearance not unworthy the capital of a great empire; but when he comes within the walls, his admiration is turned to surprise. He beholds there none of those beautiful and superb edifices, none of those neat and elegant streets, which are the principal ornament of European cities; instead of these, he sees in various directions the irregular assemblages of houses, shops and temples. The style of the architecture, and the general appearance of the buildings is the same as in Canton. Most of the streets are indeed sufficiently wide and straight; but they are not paved, and in general, their bad condition is a just subject of complaint, in this as well as in other Chinese cities. As, however, the front of every shop in the business streets, has an arrangement peculiar to itself, and before it on either side, a perpendicular sign board as high as the roof, covered with inscriptions in large gilt or painted letters, describing the wares within and the reputation of the dealer, and often hung from top to bottom with flags and ribbons; this diversity in the arrangement of merchandise, together with the profusion of gaudy decorations and the bustling crowd with which he is surrounded, divert the attention of the spectator, and cause him to forget in some degree the more disagreeable parts of the scenery around him.

The smaller streets are quiet and free from crowds, but these which lead to the principal gates are constantly thronged with people. The following description by an eye witness will serve to convey some idea of the scene they often exhibit. "The multitude of moveable workshops of tinkers and barbers, cobblers and blacksmiths, tents and booths where tea and fruit and rice and other vegetables were exposed for sale; with the wares and merchandise arranged before the doors of the shops, contracted the spacious street to a narrow road in the middle. The processions of men in office attended by their numerous retinues, bearing umbrellas and flags, painted lanterns and a variety of large insignia of their rank and station; trains accompanying, with lamentable cries, corpses to their graves and others conducting brides to their husbands with squalling music, the troops of dromedaries laden with coal from Tartary; the wheel-barrows and hand-carts loaded with vegetables; occupied nearly the whole of this middle space. All was in motion; the sides of the streets were filled with people buying and selling and bartering their different commodities. The buzz and confused noises of this mixed multitude, proceeding from the loud bawling of those who were crying their wares, the wrangling of others, and the mirth and laughter which prevailed in every group, could scarce be exceeded. Pedlars with their packs, and jugglers, and conjurors, and fortune tellers, mountebanks and quack doctors, comedians and musicians, left no space unoccupied." Such, according to Mr. Barrow, is the scene exhibited in a street in Peking. The crowd of people, and the strange sights and sounds on the occasion described, was probably greater than usual, but he has given too correct a representation of what may sometimes be witnessed even in the suburbs of Canton, to allow us to accuse him of much exaggeration.

Soon after the present dynasty took possession of the throne of China in 1614, the Government, designing to occupy the northern division of the city as barracks for its troops, purchased the houses of the private owners and gave them to the Tartars who had served in its wars; but these brave soldiers, less skilled in the arts of peace than the people they had subjugated, were soon obliged to sell them to the Chinese. In consequence of this all the principal and many of the smaller streets, with the exception of those near the imperial palace, are owned and occupied by Chinese; and the Tartar soldiers have been compelled to take up their abode in the lanes and allies near the walls of the city.—Thus far we have spoken of the capital as a whole; we now proceed to survey its principal parts.

The northern division of Peking consists of three inclosures, one within another, each surrounded by its own wall. The first contains the imperial palace and the abodes of the different members of the imperial household; the second was originally designed for the residence of the officers and attendants of the court, but is now occupied in part by Chinese merchants; the third consists of the remaining space inclosed by the outer walls, which have already been described.

The first enclosure, which is called *the forbidden city*, being the seat of the 'dragon's throne,' the place from which emanates the authority that governs one-third of mankind, is the most splendid as well as the most important part of Peking. According to the notions of a Chinese, all within its walls is gold and silver.—"He will tell you," says Mr. Barrow, "of gold and silver pillars, gold and silver roof, and gold and silver vases, in which swim gold and silver fishes."

It is situated nearly in the centre of the northern division of the city. It is an oblong parallelogram about two miles in circumference, and enclosed by a wall of nearly the same height and thickness as that of the outer wall of the capital. This wall is built of polished red brick, and surrounded by a broad ditch lined with hewn stone, and covered with varnished tiles of a brilliant yellow, which give it the appearance, especially when seen under the rays of the sun, of being covered with a roof of gold. On each of the four sides is a gate consisting of three arcades or avenues, surmounted by a tower. A tower also stands at each corner of the wall.—The interior of this enclosure is occupied by "a suite of court yards and apartments which seem to vie with each other in beauty and splendour." The terraces and glacis are covered with large bricks, and the walks that lead to the great halls are formed of large slabs of grey and white stone. It is divided into three parts, the eastern, middle, and western. The middle division contains the imperial buildings, which are subdivided into several distinct places, each having its particular name and destination. "There reigns," says father Hyacinth, "among the buildings of the forbidden city, a perfect symmetry both in the form and height of the several edifices and in their relative position, indicating that they were built upon a regular and harmonious plan." We will notice a few of the most remarkable objects it contains, beginning at the southern part of the middle division.

1. Woo-mun, 'the meridian gate.' Before this gate, on the east, is a lunar, and on the west, a solar dial, and in the tower above it a large bell and gong. Public officers of both the civil and military departments, enter and leave the palace by the eastern avenue; none but the princes of imperial blood, are permitted to pass the western, and no one but the emperor the southern avenue. Whenever he goes out or returns through it, the bell is rung and the gong struck. When his troops return in triumph from war and come to present their captives, the emperor places himself here to perform the ceremony of receiving the prisoners. Here also, are distributed the presents which the emperor makes to foreign princes and their ambassadors, as well as his own vassals. After passing this gate the visitor enters a large court, through which runs a small canal, over which are five bridges adorned with balustrades, pillars, steps and figures of lions and other sculptures, all of fine marble. He next enters a beautiful court terminated on the right and left by gates, porticoes, and galleries adorned with balconies supported on pillars.

2. Tae-ho-mun, 'the gate of extensive peace.' This has five avenues, and in other respects resembles the woo-mun, or meridian gate; it is a superb building of fine white marble. The height of the basement is twenty feet, and of the whole edifice, according to father Hyacinth, one hundred and ten. The ascent to it is by five flights of forty-two steps each, bordered with balustrades, and ornamented with tripods and other figures in bronze. The central flight is very broad and is reserved for the emperor alone; princes and officers of the first rank enter by the two next, and inferior officers by the others. Here the emperor on the first day of the year, on the anniversary of his birth, and several other occasions, receives the congratulations and respects of his officers, who prostrate themselves to the earth before him and strike the ground with their foreheads.

3. Chung-ho-teen, "the hall of perfect peace.'—This is the hall of audience where the emperor comes to examine the implements prepared for the annual ceremony of ploughing; and where also the genealogical tablets of his ancestors are presented to him.

4. Puau hoteen, 'the hall of secure peace.' In this the emperor gives a banquet to his foreign guests on new year's day; and the authors of the biography of his deceased father come in pompous ceremony to this hall to present to him their work. After ascending three flights of steps, and passing another gate, the keen tsing mun, the visitor sees before him.

5. Keens tsing kung, 'the tranquil palace of heaven,' i. e. of the emperor. This is a private retreat, to which no one can approach without special permission. To this palace the emperor repairs whenever he wishes to deliberate with his ministers upon the affairs of state, or to see those who present themselves as candidates for office or for advancement. It is described by Tunkowski as "the loftiest, richest, and most magnificent of all the palaces. In the court before it is a small tower of gilt copper, adorned with a great number of figures which are beautifully executed. On each side of the tower is a large vessel likewise of gilt copper, in which incense is burnt day and night. It was in this palace that Kang-he, in the fiftieth year of his reign, instituted a grand festival, to which every individual, whose age exceeded sixty years, whether a civil or military officer, or a private citizen, was invited. Tents were erected in front of the palace, and tables spread for many thousands. The sons and grandsons of the emperor themselves waited upon the guests. At the end of this generous entertainment, presents were distributed adapted to the condition and rank of those to whom they were given. Keenlung also, in the fiftieth year of his reign, made a similar feast. The number of guests was twice as great as on the former occasion. Those whose age exceeded ninety years, were admitted to the table of the emperor, who addressed them with kindness and afterwards bestowed on them magnificent presents.

6. Keaou-tae teen: this hall resembles in many respects the chung-ho teen; it contains twenty-five of the emperor's seals; ten others are kept at Moukden.

7. Kwan ning kung, the 'palace of earth's repose,' i. e. of the empress, is the usual abode of 'heaven's consort.' This opinion, that keen and kwan, the emperor and empress, are heaven and earth, is a favorite dogma of the reigning dynasty, and is sedulously inculcated in its state papers. Beyond this palace stands the

8. Kwan ning mun, 'the gate to earth's repose,' which admits the visitor to the

9. Yuhw yuen, 'imperial flower garden.'—This is laid out into beautiful walks designed for the use of her majesty, who, being of Tartar origin, is not deprived of this pleasure, as are the Chinese ladies, by being crippled with small feet. The gardens are filled with elegant pavilions, temples, and groves, and interspersed with canals, fountains, lakes, and beds of flowers.—Two groves, rising from the bosom of small lakes, and another crowning the summit of an artificial mountain of rugged rocks, and much to the beauty of the scene. At the east of this mountain is a library, said to contain a complete collection of all books published in the empire.

10. Shin woo mun; this gate stands beyond the imperial flower garden, and forms the northern entrance to the forbidden city. We have now completed our survey of the central division of the kin ching; the eastern contains fewer objects of interest.

11. Nuy-ko, 'the council chamber.' This term, nuy-ko, is used to denote not only the cabinet of the emperor, but also the hall in which that body holds its sessions. It is situated near the southern wall; and beyond it, towards the east, is the nuy-koo, the imperial treasury.

12. Cheun-sin teen, 'the hall of intense mental exercises. It is situated at some distance northward from the nuy-ko. Offerings are brought and sacrifices presented here to "the deceased teachers," Confucius, and likewise to other ancient sages.

13. Wan-yuen ko, the imperial library, or, more literally 'the hall containing the literary abyss:' this is situated near the chuen-sin teen, and consists of several buildings and suites of rooms, which, containing a large compilation of the national literature, Sze koo tseun shoo, 'the complete books of the four treasuries' (or libraries,) presents the largest and most complete literary collection in the empire. Farther north, in this division of the prohibited city, are situated several imperial buildings and the palaces of princes: and also

14. Fung-Seen teen, a temple to which the emperor comes to "bless his ancestors," whose names are written on tablets deposited here.—Before the day when any great sacrifice is to be offered, and when he is about to leave the city, as well as when he returns, the emperor pays a visit to this temple; likewise, at the commencement of each of the four seasons of the year, and on the first and fifteenth days of every month offerings are here presented, and during each day are thrice repeated. In the western division of the prohibited city, beginning again at the south, we notice only a few of the principal objects.

15. Nan-heun teen; this hall stands near the southern wall, and in it are collected the portraits of the sovereigns of preceding dynasties, and likewise tablets, and broad rolls, containing the portraits of eminent scholars and sages; these are arranged according to the degree of merit attributed to each.

16. Woo-yeing teen; this hall contains his majesty's printing establishment; it has a bindery and buildings in which the blocks used in printing are preserved.

17. Nuy-woo foo; here are held the sessions of a court of commissioners, or controllers, which "has among its prerogatives the regulation of receipts and expenditures of the court, its sacrifices and feasts, rewards and punishments, and all that relates to the instruction of the younger members, &c. This establishment, together with the principal magazines, of the crown, which are under its superintendence is situated near the wall on the west side of the city.

18. Ching hwang meaou, 'the temple of the guardian deity of the city, which stands at the north west corner of the inclosure. In the north-eastern part of the same division, are six palaces which are occupied by the females of the emperor: they are situated like those destined for the residences of the princes, in the eastern division.

We have now completed our brief survey of the prohibited city, which is regarded by the Chinese as the most sacred and awful of palaces. In their estimation it is also the most magnificent. The glittering yellow and various ornaments of the roofs of its palaces and other edifices, and the brilliant colors and abundant gilding applied to the interior, gave it, in their eyes, a dazzling glory; but were we to seek in it for convenience of construction, or for much that can seem elegant or grand to one whose taste has been formed according to any of the rules of architecture adopted by the people of the west, we should doubtless meet with disappointment.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

AN ADDRESS

Written and delivered, by Robert Hamilton, at the Chesnut st. Theatre, Philadelphia, on Friday 11th February, 1837, on the occasion of the Benefit of the Association for the Relief of Disabled Firemen.

To dash the tear from virtuous sorrow's eye,
To soothe affliction, banish misery's sigh,
O'er the sick couch to hang with solace sweet,
And the lone heart, with blissful hope to greet—
For such mild deeds—such gifts of holy hand,
Meet ye to-night in friendships' sacred band,
And while the smile of pleasure suns each cheek,
Blend it with Charity's, that goddess meek!

When peals the tocsin through the realms of night,
And the red flames flash on the wildered sight?
When havoc wild her flag unfurls afar,
And fierce despair drives her destroying car?
When Hope, mild maiden, bows her at the shrine
Of desolation—when e'en prayer divine,
Amid the crush of ruin seems to die—
As to the seaman wreck'd, the cheerful cry,
Breaks on his ear, so comes the welcome sound,
Of fearless hearts, who safely spread around,
Who in the cause of mercy do not fear,
To risk e'en life—to haply find a bier,
To check the demon in his march of might,
And wage defiance to the fiery fight.
Youth, age and beauty from destruction save,
And snatch the helpless from a horrid grave!

If in such cause—a cause of holy right,
Some hapless brother sink amidst the fight,
Quits life and kindred for "*that unknown bourne*
From which no traveller doth e'er return,"
Leaves the lov'd partner of his bosom dear,
Condemned to want—to shed the bitter tear?
To gaze on life with hopeless, hollow eye,
And in her home of loneliness to sigh.
'Tis then *your mercy* flashes through the gloom,
Dispels each cloud—and life doth all illume.
Oh! then the sufferer, bends in fervour meek,
Hope lights the eye,—health's flush revives the cheek!
The sorrowing soul to hope again is given,
She kneels—she trembles—weeps and worships heaven!

See infancy, close by its parent stem,
A rose bud, rich—a beauteous op'ning gem,
The tempest comes—the parent falls to earth,
And the sweet blossom, mourns its luckless birth,
But dies the storm—the sun and dewdrops kiss,
The drooping flower,—and call it back to bliss,
So by your bounty blooms some hapless child,
In beauty rich—in innocence all mild.

For deeds like these, are ye assembled here,
Say in life's path what blessings are more dear?
Proud youth—bold manhood and loved beauty bright,
Their presence bring to sanctify their right,
Oh! ever thus guard *Mercy's* sacred cause,
That first and holiest of the Almighty laws!

WHALING.

A WHALE CHASE ON THE COAST OF AFRICA.

"*Flooks—flooks!*" was the welcome salutation from aloft. The half eaten meal was broken off,—and the rush to the boats was tumultuous. It was like that of an army of practised gladiators, in the arena of the Coliseum. The alarm was heard by the crews of other vessels, and the intelligence spread like wildfire that a whale was entering the bay. Four boats were lowered—manned—and put off from the Grampus in less than half a minute after the cry was uttered aloft. A hundred other boats were instantly in motion, and bearing down upon the animal. Some, however, took the precaution to separate from the rest, and this divided the chances of capture. None could count with certainty upon striking the prey, for his course was irregular while in pursuit of his food. The whale is not a vicious animal, unless wounded; and, if not frightened, will move off sluggishly from his pursuers, and appear and disappear at regular intervals:—so that if the direction is well observed when he sinks, (or shows his *flooks*, or forked tail, as he dives) pretty accurate calculation may be made as to the place of his reappearance.

The whalers in the boats that had scattered, had their share of excitement in turn; while those who had headed the whale, when he sunk from their sight for the first time, saw with mortification by the indication of his flooks, that he had already deviated largely from his first course. As a score of others were already near the spot where he would next rise to blow, the first pursuers naturally laid upon their oars;—but they were watchful of the event of the chase.

Macy, with his two mates, and an approved boat-steerer, had each command of a separate boat. The selection of the crews for these boats, is in fact a matter of taste or favoritism with the officers of the ship. The captain has his first pick of the whole crew; and, if his judgment is good, he chooses those of the most powerful limb and muscle, quickness of apprehension, and readiness of execution. The next choice falls to the first mate;—the second officer's turn comes next;—and the siftings of the crew fall to the boat-steerers. It may readily be believed that Macy, who was an experienced whaler, was altogether discreet in his choice, and had a crew of oarsmen who might be pitted against any other crew of the whole fleet. To say that they were Americans, and experienced whale fishermen, is sufficient assurance, of itself, that they were competitors for all whaling honors, against the whole world. It is still, as it was eminently then, altogether un-American to admit of superiority in this business. It was, therefore, with deep chagrin that Macy saw the game escape him; for thus far he had led the van of the attack; while the whalers in some fifty boats in the rear, if not altogether content that he should be their leader, were at least satisfied, that to be beaten by *him* was no dishonor.

The Englishman, the Dane, the Dutchman, the Swede, as also representatives of other European nations, were Macy's ambitious competitors, for the honor of killing the first whale of the season;—the long and the strong pull was exerted to carry off the prize, and fair words of encouragement were offered, and enforced in the blandest and most persuasive manner, by those who controlled the boats. Some, uselessly enough, where so many were engaged, pulled after the animal in his devious course after food; while others rested on their oars to watch the result, and to take advantage of his wanderings. The scene was most animating—and but a few minutes served to scatter the boats in every direction; to sprinkle the bay with dark moving spots; to people it with life—sinewy life; in short, it was an exhibition of the noblest of God's creation, both animal and human, waging a war of extermination, and threatening death and destruction by collision.

The noble animal—for it was a right-whale of the largest class—held on its course up the bay, scooping its food from time to time, and annihilating its thousands of small fish at a dive; leaving the boats far in the rear, and darting off in new directions, until those who were most on the alert, or rather those who pulled the most constantly, were fain to give up the chase and lie on their oars. The whale approached the anchorage ground of the ships; and its speed was increased as it shoaled the water, in proportion to its eagerness after its flying victims. The small fish driven before their huge devourer, clubbed together and concentrated in shoals of such magnitude, that the ships were surrounded, as it were, with a dense mass of animal matter, huddling together, for common safety, or flying in swarms, before their common enemy like the multitudinous and periodical flowings of the herring from the Greenland seas.

Intent upon his prey, the whale appeared unconscious of the dangerous vicinage of the ships and played among them with a temerity that evinced a tameness, or perhaps an ignorance of its danger, that plainly showed he had never been chased by the whaler, nor hurt by the harpoon. His eager pursuit after food may, however, account for his recklessness, for, generally speaking, the instinct of the whale is sufficient, upon all occasions, to avoid an unusual object floating upon the water; and at such times the nicest stratagem of the art of the whaler is required to capture him.

The persecuted tribes have been chased so often—pursued so relentlessly, from haunt to haunt, that they must not be unnecessarily scared; for, if they are, the pursuit may as well be abandoned first as last.—No crew can row a boat, for any length of time, to keep pace with a frightened and fugitive whale.

The animal, gorged with its fishy meal, at last commenced its retreat from the bay; and the boats manœuvered to head off as he retired. Obeying the instinct of his nature, he now showed his flooks and vanished from the sight, before the boats could get within striking distance. A calculation being made where he would next appear, (for beneath the water the whale does not deviate from a direct line in his horizontal progress) a general race ensued, and each strove, as if life were on the issue, to arrive first upon the spot. Some twenty minutes steady and vigorous pulling found the foremost boats a full mile behind the whale when he arose again to breathe. Several boats were unluckily ahead of Seth in the chase, as their position at starting enabled them to take the lead, when the animal began to push for deeper water. But Seth's men had been resting on their oars, while nearly all the others had exhausted their strength, in following the whale among the ships; and the captain judged rightly, that in darting after this finny prey, he would lead them all a bootless dance. He had determined to wait for the retreat; and then to hang upon the rear of the enemy. There were others, however, acquainted with the soundings of the bay, whose tactics were scarce inferior to Seth's, and the advantage gained over him by several boats was proof of this, or at least of the superior accuracy of their calculations. It was a long time since Seth had given chase to an animal of the right whale breed; he had grappled of late, only with the spermaceti—and, therefore, it was not to be wondered at, at this time, and under the circumstances, that some of those around him should beat him manœuvering in the bay. But in the steady chase, he knew that he could count upon the speed and bottom of his boat's crew; and he was now resolved to contest for the victory.

"We have a clear field now, my boys—give way steadily—we gain upon them—give the long pull—the strong pull—and the pull altogether:—keep her to it—heave ahead my hearties!" Such were the words of Seth, as with eye steadily fixed upon a certain point, and with his steering oar slightly dipping at times, he guided the light whale boat unerringly towards the place where he expected the whale to reappear. One by one he had dropped his antagonists, until there only remained three boats manfully struggling between him and the prize. The whale again breathed at the surface, and the distance between the headmost boat and the animal was found to be diminished to half a mile—while the ships in the bay were run "hull down." The pursuers were now out upon the broad ocean. Those who had abandoned the chase in despair, were slowly returning to their ships. The rigging of the vessels was manned by anxious spectators, watching the motions of the tiny specks out at sea, with beating hearts. The whale again cast his flooks into the air, and sank from the view of his pursuers. Now came the tug of war.

"You must beat those foreigners ahead," said Seth, to his men, "or crack your oars: they are of good American ash, and will bear pulling," continued he:—"Give way with a will!—Pull—pull, my lads; that whale will not sink again without a harpoon in his body:—and 'twill never do to tell of at home, that we allowed men of other nations to beat us. Keep your eyes steadily on your oars;—mark the stroke of the after oar, men—and give way for the credit of the Grampus!"

Here Seth braced himself in the stern-sheets—seized the steering oar with his left hand, and placed his right foot against the after oar, just below the hand of the oarsman.

"Now pull for your lives!" said he, "while I add the strength of my leg to the oar.—Once more!—Again, my boys!—Once more.—There,—we pass the Spaniard!"

"*Diabolo!*" exclaimed the mortified native of Spain.

The additional momentum of Seth's foot, applied to the stroke oar, had done the job; but two more boats were to be passed,—and quickly too,—or all the labor would be lost.

"At it again, my boys! steady—steady—give way! give way for the honor of the Grampus. One pull for old Nantucket! and—there—we have shown a clean pair of heels to the Dutchman!"

"*Hagel!—Donder and Blixem!*" said the Hollander.

"There is but one boat ahead," said Seth;—"It is the Englishman!—We must beat *him* too, or we have gained nothing! Away with her, down upon him like men!—One pull for the Grampus, my boys!—another for old Nantuck——"

The American now shot up alongside of the English boat:—but the honor of the nation, too, was at stake; and they bent to their oars with fresh vigor. Five athletic Englishmen, each with a chest that would have served for the model of Hercules, with arms of brawn and sinew, swayed their oars with a precision and an earnestness that, for a minute, left the contest doubtful. The English commander, seeing how effectually Seth managed the stroke oar with his foot, braced himself in a similar attitude of exertion;—and his boat evidently gained upon the Nantucketer! Seth saw the increase of speed of his rival with dismay. The whale, too, was just rising ahead. The bubbles of his blowing, and of his efforts at rising, were beginning to ascend! It was a moment of intense anxiety. The rushing train or vortex of water, told that he was near the surface. Both commanders encouraged their men anew by a single word; and then, as if by mutual consent, all was silent, except the long, measured, and vigorous stroke of the oars.

"For old England, my lads!" shouted the one.

"Remember old Nantucket, my boys!" was the war cry of the other.

Both plied their oars with apparently equal skill; but the hot Englishman lost his temper as the boat of Seth shot up again, head and head with him—and he surged his foot so heavily upon the after oar, that it broke off short in the row-lock! The blade of the broken oar became entangled with the others on the same side, while the after oarsman lost his balance, and fell backward upon his leader.

"I bid thee good bye!" said Seth, as he shot ahead.

"Way enough—peak your oars!" said Seth to his men. The oars bristled apeak, after the fashion of the whale-fishermen. The harpooner immediately seized and balanced his weapon over his head, and planted himself firmly in the bow of the boat. At that instant the huge body of the whale rose above the surface; and Seth, with a single turn of his steering oar, brought the bow dead upon the monster, a few feet back of the fin. Simultaneously with the striking of the boat, the well poised harpoon was launched deep into the flesh of the animal.

"*Starn all!*" shouted Seth.

The boat was backed off in an instant; and the whale, feeling the sting of the barb, darted on like the wind. The well-coiled line flew through the groove of the bow-post with incomparable swiftness, and it presently began to smoke and then to blaze with the rapidity of the friction. Seth now took the bow with his lance, exchanging places with the harpooner, and quietly poured water upon the smoking groove, until it was cooled. The oars were again *peaked*, and the handles inserted in brackets fixed on the ceiling of the boat, beneath the thwarts—the blades projecting over the water like wings; and the men, immoveable, rested from their long, but successful pull:—and much need did they have of the relief,—for a more arduous, or a better contested chase, they had never experienced.

The line in the tub was now well nigh run out, and the boat-steerer, with a thick buckskin mitten or nipper, as it is called, for the protection of his hand, seized hold of the line, and, in a twinkling, caught a turn round the loggerhead, to enable the man at the tub-oar to bend on another line.

The rapidity of the animal's flight the while was inconceivable. The boat now ploughed deeply and laboriously, leaving banks of water on each side, as she parted the wave that overtopped the men's heads, and effectually obscured the sight of every object on the surface. The swell of the closing water came after them in a heavy and angry rush. The second line was now allowed to run slowly from the loggerhead, and a drag, or plank about eighteen inches square, with a line proceeding from each corner, and meeting at a point like a pyramid, was fastened to it, and thrown over to deaden the speed of the whale. Another and another drag were added, until the animal, feeling the strong backward pull, began to relax his efforts—and presently he suddenly descended, though not to the full extent of the slackened line.

It now became necessary to haul in the slack of the line, and to coil it away in the tub carefully, while the men pulled with their oars, to come up with the whale when he should rise to the surface. All things were soon ready again for the deadly attack.

The ripple of the whale, as he ascended, was carefully marked; and when he again saw the light of the day, a deep wound, close to the barbed harpoon, was instantly inflicted by the hand of Seth. It was the death blow.

"*Starn all!*" was the cry once more—and the boat was again quickly backed off by the oarsmen.

The infuriated animal roared in agony, and lashed the ocean into foam. The blood gushed from his spout-holes, falling in torrents upon the men in the boat, and coloring the sea. The whale, in his last agony, is a fearful creature. He rose perpendicularly in the water, head downwards, and again writhed and lashed the sea with such force, that the people in the retreating boats, though ten miles distant, heard the thunder of the sound distinctly. The exertion was too violent to last long:—it was the signal of his dissolution. His blood ceased to flow, and he turned his belly to the sun! The wail of the Grampus floated triumphantly above the body of the slaughtered Leviathan of the deep—and the peril of the hardy crew was over.

SUNDAY READINGS.

FROM THE NATIONAL ATLAS.

THE LANDING OF THE PILGRIM FATHERS,

At Plymouth, Mass, 1620.

"Thy children's prayers, O Father, hear,
And stretch thy saving arm;
Our little bark in safety steer,
And calm the raging storm."

'Twas thus the Pilgrim Fathers sung,—
Their God's protection claimed;
As loud the bursting tempest rung
And keen the lightening flamed.

Whilst all was fierce contention round,
And *Hope* no longer beamed;
In *Faith* their consolation found,
As through the mist it gleamed.

Like *Love* that in the darkest hour
Glows more intensely bright;—
Whilst woe and peril round us lower,
Faith sheds her holy light.

No longer now the tempest blows,
Nor lightnings o'er them blaze;—
Now loud the Hallelujahs rose,
And joyous songs of praise.

And why forsake fair Albion's shore,
And seek a distant strand,
The forest wilds to wander o'er
Far from their native land.

And was it Fame's dazzling frame
That lured them from their home,
Or for ambition's empty name
Do they the billows roam?

Her gold nor fame will be their meed,
A holier boon they win,—
Unshackled with their God to plead
And shun the death of sin.

C.

Dying thoughts of the author of the Ecclesiastical Polity.

After this manner spake the author of the Ecclesiastical Polity, immediately before he expired:

I have lived to see, that this world is made up of perturbations; and I have been long preparing to leave it, and gathering comfort for the dreadful hour of making my account with God, which I now apprehend to be near. And though I have, by his grace, loved him in my youth, and feared him in mine age, and laboured to have a conscience void of offence towards him, and towards all men; yet, 'if thou, Lord, shouldest be extreme to mark what I have done amiss, who can abide it?' And, therefore, where I have failed, Lord, show mercy to me, for I plead not my righteousness, but the forgiveness of my unrighteousness, through his merits, who died to purchase pardon for penitent sinners. And since I owe thee a death, *Lord*, let it not be terrible, and then take thine own time; I submit to it—'Let not mine, O Lord, but thy will, be done!'—God hath heard my daily petitions; for I am at peace with all men, and he is at peace with me. From such blessed assurance I feel that inward joy which this world can neither give nor take from me. My conscience beareth me this witness, and this witness makes the thoughts of death joyful. I could wish to live, to do the church more service, but cannot hope it: 'for my days are past, as a shadow that returns not.'

His worthy biographer adds—

More he would have spoken, but his spirits failed him; and, after a short conflict between nature and death, a quiet sigh put a period to his last breath, and so he fell asleep—and now he seems to rest like Lazarus in Abraham's bosom.

HORNE.

OBJECTS OF CHRISTIAN HOPE.

The perfect and everlasting happiness of heaven, is an object of a righteous man's hope in death. He hopes to drop all his sins, and their attendant train of sorrows, behind him; and to be perfectly holy, and consequently happy for ever. He hopes to see his God and Saviour, and to spend a happy eternity in society with him, and in his service. He hopes to join the company of angels, and of his fellow-saints of the human race. He hopes to improve in knowledge, in holiness, and in capacities for action and enjoyment, in an endless gradation. He hopes to see "the face of God in righteousness, and to be satisfied, when he awakes in his likeness." In short, he hopes to be unspeakably happy through an endless duration.

What a glorious hope is this! This has made many a soul welcome death with open arms. This has made them "desirous of being with Christ, which is far better." And this has sweetly swallowed up the sensations of bodily pain. Indeed without this, immortality would be an object of terror, and not of hope; the prospect would be insupportably dreadful. For who can bear the thought of an immortal duration spent in an eternal banishment from God, and all happiness, and in the sufferance of the most exquisite pain! But a happy immortality, what can charm us more.

DAVIES.

THE LAST HOUR.

Of all the periods and events of life, the concluding scene is one of the deepest interest to the person himself, and to surviving friends. Various are the ways in which it comes, but in all it is solemn. What can be more so, than the approach of that moment, which to the dying man, is the boundary between time and eternity; which finishes the one, and begins the other; which closes his interests in this world, and fixes his condition for a never-ending existence in the world unknown! What can be more so, than those moments of silent and indescribable anxiety, when the last sands of the numbered hour are running; when the cold hand returns not the gentle pressure; when the weary limbs lie still and motionless; when the eye is fixed, and the ear turns no more towards the voice of consoling kindness; when the breath, before oppressive and laborious, becomes feebler and feebler, till it dies slowly away; and to the listener there is no sound amidst the breathless silence; when surrounding friends continue to speak in whispers, and to step through the chamber softly, as if still fearful of disturbing him,—whom the noise of a thousand thunders could not now startle,—who has fallen on that last sleep, from which nothing shall rouse, but "the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God."

WARDLAW.

Letters from Illinois.

Canton, Illinois, Nov. 10, 1836.

My brother—I arrived at this place a few days since from Springfield, where I have made it head-quarters while closing up the business connected with our land sutvey. Our lands, 18,000 acres, are located in the southwest corners of Sangamon and Shelby counties, twenty-eight miles from Springfield and about the same distance from Shelbyville, the county seat of the latter county. The land is rolling, with some timber and much prairie land, and is a rich, fine soil, of which comes to the county road running from Shelbyville to Springfield, which has been surveyed from the former village to our new town.

You will at once perceive our prospects are fair to realize something very handsome upon our purchase. Located as we are in two of the oldest counter in the state, surrounded by quite compact settlements, with superior prairie land a sufficiency of first rate timber, an exc state and small, and another county seat, and a plentiful fall of complete success. But enough of this at present.

In my last I believe I promised to say something of education and religion. Many with you and in the older states have an idea of new countries, formation, suppose in coming here, that they come to a land in a great measure destitute of the means of education, and the spirit of consistent, devoted piety. I am quite sure, judging from what I have learned by being on the ground, that, considering the infancy of the country, the number of inhabitants, and the unsettled state of pecuniary abilities, ours is done and is doing more for education than what you, or in the more eastern states. Government has given the 16th section in every township for the support of common schools, besides select lands in the counties for higher schools. Colleges are being established and buildings are going in every quarter etc. Men pay their money for collegiate purposes with a liberality and a cheerfulness that is gratifying and exhilarating to the lovers of learning. If it cannot be said that the leading characters here are men of letters, it can be said, fearless of contradiction, a greater portion of clear-headed, sound-minded persons, who are strictly devoted to sun and those as they are, can leave be proclaimed, than those who have had the most higher privileges and facilities. And I believe it is but saying too much that the time is not distant when young men from the south and the east will be sent to this west for their education, and the west will be able to give it to them on as good terms and as thoroughly as can be elsewhere procured. There is an element in the west by which all manner, means, influences, and efforts are hailed in unison—and it set so grateful, gratulated, understood and controlled, that one can exert easily or long suffered to injure the legal rights of another, or injure any scheme of enterprise, but must lay down his arms and retire. The generation now growing will, indeed are having as great educational facilities as the world ever will see; and each successive year these facilities are increasing. I know things are not as rapid nor soon as in some of the older states, but it is spring time, and when the proper season for treating the virtue of the first shall come, the people here may fearlessly enter upon the trial—and they will be proved first.

I have witnessed as ardent and pure piety among the professed followers of our Lord as in the land of the fathers. Much pains where they are taken to sustain the worship of God, and to avoid and prevent vexations of the Sabbath. People in attendance at divine service are orderly, circumspect and attentive. I think, if not much acknowledge, however, that with some irreligious men profanity is on the decrease, but there is less of intemperance than I expected. Very many of the public men, no bars, and in grocery stores no alcoholic liquors are kept. I think the people more unmoral than at the east. They possess a great desire to improve, to live cheerfully and thankfully embrace every opportunity for doing so. There may be numerous exceptions to my remarks; but taking an aggregate view of the subject, I believe I am correct in all I write.

One thing may be noticed with pleasure and result to the people. Here are found little of the mean and petty jealousy, growing out of the fear of being out-done, secret. If such thing should appear, you could easily trace it to some ignorant, dogmatical demagogue, who foolishly imagines the only way to push himself up, is to push every body else down. Then again, if this benevolent spirit should be undertaken, the spirit of malignant scorn would be directed at the mover, or he would be considered a fool for his weak and silent contempt.

In my general remarks upon this interesting and advancing portion of our country, you may judge me too much of an eulogist; but suspend your judgment, if at last you find, until you shall have seen *for yourself*. I try to write just as I casually circumstances and view things the as If I err, the error is honest.

I trust, and Providence will allow me soon to see you and your dear family and you in peace and health. I shall leave for your house shortly—till then farewell. From your brother,

F. FRARY, Esq. G. B. PERRY.

THE IMPROVEMENT BILL

Was reported in the House of Representatives on Monday, by Mr. J. McIntire, chairman of the Committee on Internal Improvement. We have neither time nor room, at present, to do more than give the following brief abstract of its details:

To the Erie extension,	$600,000
To the North Branch extension,	600,000
To an extension from the mouth of Tangascanock to the Susquehannaing,	100,000
For a navigable feeder from Allegheny to the Kiskeminetas near Kittaning,	100,000
To complete the rail road to avoid the inclines on the Portage rail-road,	87,500
To complete the Tangascanock line on the West Branch,	52,343
To the Gettysburg rail-road,	150,000
For reservoirs in the neighborhood of Johnstown and Hollidaysburg,	25,000
For a survey to ascertain the practicability of a continued water communication between the West Branch, and the Alleghany river,	10,000
For surveys to ascertain the practicability of a rail-road from Chambersburg, to Bridgehampton,	12,000
For the survey of a rail-road line from Nanticoke Pool, by way of Tunkhannock, to Binghampton,	15,000
For the survey of a rail-road from Franklin to the mouth of Erie,	2,000
For surveys to ascertain the practicability of connecting the canals on the Juniata and Conemaugh, by a rail-road without inclined planes, and the sum specified,	10,000
For making a navigable communication between Shenter's creek, in Huntingdon county, and the Pennsylvania canal,	5,000
To construct a towing path along the pond of the Reindeer dam at the east side of the North Branch, to the mouth of Salmon's creek,	5,000
To extend the Pennsylvania rail-road to Marietta, so as to avoid the inclined plane at Columbia,	40,000
In addition to the foregoing, the bill provides for the following subscriptions of stock on behalf of the commonwealth:	
To the Danville and Pottsville railroad,	$200,000
To the Bald Eagle and Spring creek navigation,	25,000
To the Lancaster, Mount Joy, Perkiomin and Harrisburg rail-road,	150,000
To the Cumberland Valley rail-road,	200,000
To the Union canal company,	300,000 shares.
To the Monongahela navigation co.	100,000
To the Franklin rail-road,	80,000
To the Crescent and New Castle railroad,	100,000
To the Pittsburgh and Langhlinstown rail-road,	200,000
To the Somerset and Johnstown turnpike company,	8,000
To the Williamsport and Washington turnpike,	5,000
To the Monongahela Bridge at Williamsport,	5,000
To the Warren and Franklin turnpike company,	4,000
To the Washington and Pittsburgh turnpike company,	10,000
To the Peter's mountain turnpike co.	35,000
To the Mercer and Meadville turnpike company,	500
To the Downingtown, Ephrata Harrisburgh turnpike,	6,000
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A new fraud.—The Chicago Advertiser states that "In a cavern in the side of a small mountain on the Niagara district, U. Canada, water is continually oozing from the rock. This water freezes in summer and dissolves in winter; that as water grows cold in autumn and winter the ice melts away, but as spring opens it begins to freeze, and form large stacks of that by harvest, they may be conveniently used to make ice water. Let those who are versed in the frauks of Nature give us the why and wherefore of this strange variation from her general law."

Saturday Evening Post.

PHILADELPHIA

FEBRUARY 25, 1837.

To Readers and Correspondents.

We question whether the reflections of Junius, "upon the Marriot Case" are founded upon actual occurrences. We will inform us.

C. E. B. is rejected.

"Silver" has adopted a most persuasive ought to have requested us to say that they intend to in the spring to carry out the plan first projected for the "laying out of the square, so as to include the burying ground, and therefore they are desirous that persons interested, should give them the grave stones as early as possible.—Should not all be removed, the grave yard will be laid flat upon the surface of the graves, and carefully covered over to a considerable depth, the ground being lower than that adjoining.—*U. S. Gaz.*

CORONER'S REPORT.

Appalling Case—Death from Starvation.—An inquest was held by Mr. Gilchrist, on the 11th inst. at a house in Filbert street, above Schuylkill Third, before Jonathan Evans, Coroner, on a child named Maria Quiguire, two years of age. After the jury had viewed the body, Dr. Mitchell, the physician attending at Girard's Hotel, where it sat the same evening. The mother of the child presented a touching spectacle, the poor creature having apparently died from exhaustion, and was scarcely conscious of her utterance of her brother workmen, walked without a patient investigation, a verdict was returned to that effect. By the time the verdict was delivered in, the unfortunate mother, who, while the jury were at her house was absent, had returned home; and hearing the verdict, set to her to know whether he should make arrangements for burial. She replied that she would send to see to that herself. In about an hour after, however, the neighbors were informed that the child was still unburied, and that there were three other children in the house, who were in a state of destitution and starvation. Mr. Gregory repaired to this house of misery, accompanied by Mr. Fitler, and reported to the Guardians of the Poor. They found every indication of the child's statement to be correct. Articles, the poor creature having apparently died from exhaustion, and attention, a knock, if not more than is often the case in our polished cities. To be sure every thing is plain and simple; but every thing is sincere and open. Long, long shall I cherish the memory of the happy, soul-cheering seasons I have enjoyed in the *far west* with the saints of the most high God, as we bowed together at the altar and worshipped. I must acknowledge, however, that with some irreligious men profanity is on decrease, but there is less of intemperance than I expected. Very many of the public men, no bars, and in grocery stores no alcoholic liquors are kept. I think the people more unmoral than at the east. They possess a great desire to improve, to live cheerfully and thankfully embrace every opportunity for doing so. There may be numerous exceptions to my remarks; but taking an aggregate view of the subject, I believe I am correct in all I write.

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Destructive Fire in Boston.—Briggs' Bulletin states that on Tuesday morning last another fire in the extensive flagging Manufactory in Northampton street, near Roxbury. Boiler, which was entirely destroyed. The water could be procured. The building was three stories high, and 90 feet long, and thoroughly dry, and occupied with difficulty. Mr. *Winslow Lewis*, part owner, was in the upper story, over where the fire originated, who, finding escape by the stairway impossible, got out of a window and descended by the fall. The foreman was in one of the upper rooms, and was compelled to jump out of the window at a great risk of his life. Some say a fire a little girl was missing, but it was afterwards ascertained that she had left the factory and no fires were lost. The only injury sustained was by the engineer, who had his thumb severely burnt.

Mr. Henry Lewis, who was in the Engine Room when the fire was discovered, went to his counting room to save his cost; but he was too late; the fire had possession of the whole and every thing therein. It is believed that the fire was the work of an incendiary. The loss estimated at $35,000 of which $20,000 is insured. Besides the factory, there were destroyed five small wooden buildings occupied by Germans, many of whom worked in the factory. There were one or two other workmen slightly injured, owned by Winslow Lewis. Loss about $5000, and insured $1800.

Death by Charcoal.—We have another melancholy instance to record of the fatal effects produced by the imprudent use of burning charcoal. We learn that a Mr. and Mrs. Wright, who live on a visit to his brother Captain Whitney, Durham, last week, retired to bed in the front chamber, without a fire place, and took with them a warmer, or clay furnace filled with ignited coals from the kitchen. The gentleman and lady not rising so early in the morning, as usual, fell the family, and on entering the room they required to the bed-room, forced open the door, and found Mr. and Mrs. Wright dressed across the bed, and her almost lifeless husband in an insensible stupor, from which every effort to rouse him was in vain. Mrs. Wright was also in a state of insensibility, but was able to speak—but it was difficult to make any connection of her ideas. She stated the fact that his feelings will never be restored. Mrs. Wright died on the 13th inst. The jury of inquest found, it is inferred that she sat down by the pot of coals, partly undressed herself, and inhaled so much of the gas as to produce the fatal sensations, and in attempting to obtain relief by the bed, fell the bed, and in her struggles, overwhelmed, fainted, fell, and expired.—*Port. Adv.*

We mentioned some time ago an ingenious novelty introduced upon the French stage. We perceive that the Parisians have not yet worked it out. It is thus alluded to by a theatrical critic: "Much amusement was afforded by the fall of the curtain of the Opera-house. The representation of a scene in which a duel is to be fought, and a sanguinary catastrophe to ensue, requires a scene of unusual length, and all the preparations for the combat are made before the eyes of the audience. The curtain falls when the difficulty was disclosed; and the business of the scene is carried on behind it. Every thing was in readiness for the combat, and the principals, and an audience appears, almost in brilliant and imposing as a real one. A number of gentlemen were seen to enter from the side scenes in the pit are loud in their applause and disapprobation. The effect of the whole was grand and whimsical, especially when the dancers appeared upon the stage, and were received by way of exhibiting to the imaginary one. Duelversary fails in her *post mortem*, gets well housed, and retires in disgust. She is then seen approaching to address the audience, and the curtain falls amid roars of laughter. It is to be hoped however to have seen a scene effect so ingeniously introduced upon the stage. The scene between Duvernay's dancing was charming, particularly by a Spanish castinet dance, which was encored with expressions of vehement admiration and delight.

The President's Message at Liverpool.—A single copy of the President's Message was received at Liverpool on Friday. Dec. 30th, in the pocket of a passenger who had landed from the packet ship Columbia, from New York. It was in the charge of Mr. Crary, to whose house the ship was consigned. After taking an early breakfast to assures to get copies printed, so that they might be distributed among the citizens in time to have their sentiments known to the public at the meeting of the Council was held, and it was resolved that it would "swamp the paper. On the contrary, the agents of the great London papers were all on the alert to get a copy, but in vain, monopoly. But that was denied, and Mr. Crary had only time to get a hasty perusal of the paper, and two dozen copies were procured by the kindness of the London mail.—*N. Y. Jour. of Com.*

The Opium Trade.—The Chinese Government, finding their laws which prohibit the importation of opium, to be of no avail in preventing specie, in lieu of goods, to be exchanged for the produce of the soil, have at last put in full licence to the importation on the payment. It is calculated that $20,000,000 of late been sent to China by the United States, and Europe, annually, says one of their documents, "the interest of which has been lost to the country, as the middle kingdom to purchase goods, and the interest of which is lost to the living money from these causes the foreign money is continually going out, but never coming in.—*N. Y. Jour. Com.*

During Outrageous Attack.—On the 18th inst. a man named Daniel Fenton, living in Fifth street, was set by his mistress to a store near the intersection of Baltimore and South streets. As he was standing at the corner who accosted him by saying that the thief Gen. Worth, for which the servant made no reply, but proceeded to take him by the collar, whereupon he was set upon by a man who had been concealed in a door after him a man jumped forward, seized him and dragged him into the gutter, when two more ruffians appeared, and commenced beating him, one placing his hands on his mouth and threatening to stab him if he made any noise. The other throwing himself across him whilst the third rifled his pockets of a few shillings and his pocket knife, which proceeded from rising. He refused to give up his property, but was overpowered by numbers, and was found dead the next day about 11 o'clock with his throat cut from ear to ear, and the throw, the day before. What renders this act of cruelty more horrible is that he had only been picking out the mortar round one of the stones, with a pocket knife, to burn, he says, and not removing a stone from the inner tier of the wall and then performing the same operation on the next stone, so as to be well shot between the Penn Yard he scaled by the assistance of a ladder, which he appears to be handy in doing in the yard. He appears to have been peculiarly fortunate in escaping the search of the constables on that side of the North Branch, to the mouth of Salmon's creek, a distance of 5,000 To extend the Pennsylvania rail-road to Marietta, so as to avoid the inclined plane at Columbia, 40,000

Excerpts from Prison.—A correspondent at Trenton, Indiana, writes to the Cincinnati Gazette on Saturday last, that, "a desperate rogue by the name of Conoil, alias Clark, escaped from the State Prison last night, by the fact that the guard was supposed to be a perfectly safe depository for all evil-doers. He effected his escape by picking out the mortar round one of the stones, with a pocket knife, which he soon burnt, and removing a stone from the inner tier of the wall and then performing the same operation on the next stone, so as to be well shot between the Penn Yard he scaled by the assistance of a ladder, which he appears to be handy in doing in the yard. He appears to have been peculiarly fortunate in escaping the search of the constables on that side of the North Branch, to the mouth of Salmon's creek, a distance of 5,000 To extend the Pennsylvania rail-road to Marietta, so as to avoid the inclined plane at Columbia, 40,000

Another new Invention.—The fire-arm invented by Cochrane we thought to be beyond improvement, but we were mistaken. At the Washington Metropolitan, Baron Hacket has invented a machine which will supersede even the celebrated principle of Cochrane, Hall & Colt. The Metropolitan says:—

"It resembles the ordinary musket in appearance, without the addition of the lock, and is composed of a barrel and breech. The latter is raised and lowered by means of a moveable screw, which enters upon two grooves in the breech, and by the trigger, supply the places of hammer, pan and lock. The cartridge is put in the breech when only to be shut down again to prevent the powe loaded, cocked, and ready for discharge. It will carry ball and shot, and is intended for an indefinite number of times, without taking the musket from position.

The musket, it is said, carries further and requires less powder than any other arm in use—it can be loaded with fixed bayonet and fired repeatedly in the face of a cavalry charge, without removing it from the shoulder, no advantage which requires no explanation to a military man; it can with perfect ease be loaded on horseback at full gallop; can be applied with equal advantage to cannon, muskets, rifles, fowling pieces and pistols; and with ease it may be fixed to the saddle in a manner to be concealed.

Arch Creek Hostilities.—Ten remnant of Creeks left in Alabama, have committed their murders and robbery in good earnest. Besides the murder of Mr. Pugh, six other persons are reported to have been put to death. A skirmish had taken place upon Arch creek, in which two white men were killed, and also Gen. Welborn, of Irwinton. Houses have been burned, and a large amount of property destroyed. Fifty warriors have gone out of the camp under the command of Gen. Jesup, to fight the women and children. The squaws have killed their children, which have been discovered on Pine river, in Barbour co. who it is ascertained had never been with Jesup.

It is now conjectured that the Seminoles have come up from Florida with the intention of joining the Creeks, did them. Capt. Welborn, while securing the Cowaggee Indians, with 30 men in one house, was surprised by about 150 of the hostile warriors, and in their retreat lost a young man named Patterson, and five wounded. When this news reached Irwinton, another band of 44 set out, and a company of mounted volunteers from Fort Gaines, on the Chattahoochee river, on (Geo.) 60 in number, are already on the ground.

Louisiana.—"The Legislature of this State says the *New Orleans Advertiser*; appears determined not further to augment the banking capital of Louisiana. This night it is of opinion adequate to all the commercial, if not the speculative, wants of the community."

Several persons in Bangor, Maine, were on trial for a conspiracy against the good name of Mrs. Dr. Harris, of that place, and the wife of the late Dr. Harris, for the purpose of obtaining her of an interest in the estate of her husband. The plaintiffs were Mrs. Dr. Harris, and Mary A. Rose, sister of the husband, his brother-in-law, Benjamin Howard, Tevis, and Birmingham were convicted.

The young women of Llandair, in Wales, have established a benevolent society, the members of which are to receive the addresses of any man who is not a confirmed toe-to-taller.—*Chester Courant.*

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A French paper says that "amongst the numerous speculations of the day, we have heard of a Joint Stock Company, for the purpose of insuring the Governor to appoint a practical experimenter to ascertain the best mode of preserving the deposites" in the most genteel manner.—*N. Y. Star.*

Congugal Affection.—A singular and extraordinary instance of conjugal affection occurred at New Haven a few days since. A miserable, drunken fellow, by the name of Lewis Abraham, bare-headed, was observed standing in the middle of the road, in front of his dwelling house, crying, with her eyes intently fixed upon a companion, who was standing at the door of a neighbor's Chapel street. As they approached, she placed herself in a situation for observation, and with a full view of the scene, stood as if fixed to the spot until at last the object of her search appeared in view. Then she sprang forward with the utmost fondness, and caught him from the ranks, and, with a cry of joy, exclaimed, "Oh, my husband, I am only utter in her agony, "My Johnny! My Johnny!" The hardened deserter of the domestic circle, on hearing the voice of his wife, and rudely attempted to liberate himself from her grasp, but in vain; she clung to him with hope. When he shook her from his neck, she caught him by the hand, and followed in the walk in the wet and dirt, and with shrieks, like Indian yells, she clung to her Johnny. Arrived at home with the wife of his bosom, his quarters, when the difficulty was disclosed; and the husband was fined for his conduct, and the wife discharged of his uniform, and discharged to take care of him. The scene was witnessed by many citizens, and the wife, who had thus suddenly terminated the glory of her husband's career, with her curses were deafened with her cries of joy and clapping of hands, with the well known from the ranks.—*New Haven Herald.*

British and American Residents at Paris.—A meeting of the British and American residents at Paris was held on the 30th ult. for the purpose of voting a congratulatory address to the King of the French, upon his providential escape from the late attempt upon his life. A committee, composed of six English and six Americans, was appointed to prepare the address and no resolutions, and an address, to be submitted to the meeting at a future day. It was also decided that it would "swamp the paper. On the contrary, the agents of the great London papers were all on the alert to get a copy, but in vain, monopoly. But that was denied, and Mr. Crary had only time to get a hasty perusal of the paper, and two dozen copies were procured by the kindness of the London mail.—*N. Y. Jour. of Com.*

The Opium Trade.—The Chinese Government, finding their laws which prohibit the importation of opium, to be of no avail in preventing specie, in lieu of goods, to be exchanged for the produce of the soil, have at last put in full licence to the importation on the payment. It is calculated that $20,000,000 of late been sent to China by the United States, and Europe, annually, says one of their documents, "the interest of which has been lost to the country, as the middle kingdom to purchase goods, and the interest of which is lost to the living money from these causes the foreign money is continually going out, but never coming in.—*N. Y. Jour. Com.*

During Outrageous Attack.—On the 18th inst. a man named Daniel Fenton, living in Fifth street, was set by his mistress to a store near the intersection of Baltimore and South streets. As he was standing at the corner who accosted him by saying that the thief Gen. Worth, for which the servant made no reply, but proceeded to take him by the collar, whereupon he was set upon by a man who had been concealed in a door after him a man jumped forward, seized him and dragged him into the gutter, when two more ruffians appeared, and commenced beating him, one placing his hands on his mouth and threatening to stab him if he made any noise. The other throwing himself across him whilst the third rifled his pockets of a few shillings and his pocket knife, which proceeded from rising. He refused to give up his property, but was overpowered by numbers, and was found dead the next day about 11 o'clock with his throat cut from ear to ear, and the throw, the day before. What renders this act of cruelty more horrible is that he had only been picking out the mortar round one of the stones, with a pocket knife, to burn, he says, and not removing a stone from the inner tier of the wall and then performing the same operation on the next stone, so as to be well shot between the Penn Yard he scaled by the assistance of a ladder, which he appears to be handy in doing in the yard. He appears to have been peculiarly fortunate in escaping the search of the constables on that side of the North Branch, to the mouth of Salmon's creek, a distance of 5,000 To extend the Pennsylvania rail-road to Marietta, so as to avoid the inclined plane at Columbia, 40,000

A nut of Things broken up.—We learn, that early on Monday morning last, the sheriff, having in charge the execution issued in favor of Girard's estate, accompanied by a number of officers, surrounded a house in the western part of the city, occupied by a family by the name of Fouks, and arrested all the occupants. On search being made, a large quantity of counterfeits of the coarse, a furnace, crucibles, and all the utensils for manufacturing the spurious coin were found, and afterwards found several hundred dollars worth of silver in bars, buried in the yard, which, it is supposed, was the place where it was supposed to have been stolen. The house of search was in the name of Fouks, but the whole concern was carried on by a man named Lord for further trial. This will take place on the 16th ult. A regular band of counterfeiters have been recently been released from the Penitentiary of this State by the Governor, and have commenced their old trade.

We learn that four young men, inhabitants of the *famous* "Darby Town," were arrested between that place and Rockaten, upon a charge of highway robbery, on Saturday last, and committed to the county prison. They were examined before the Mayor's Court, on Monday, and bailed Court for further trial. This will take place on the 16th ult. A regular band of counterfeiters have been recently been released from the Penitentiary of this State by the Governor, and have commenced their old trade.

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Shocking Occurrence.—On the 1st inst. as Mr. John B. Brown was felling a tree in the woods about six miles north west from this village, the tree, in its descent, caught upon and the load and wood rack entangled in the standing logs, which prevented him from rising. He remained in this situation for 24 hours undiscovered, and was found dead the next day about 11 o'clock with his head on the ground and entirely in the thaw, the day before. What renders this act of cruelty more horrible is that he had only been picking out the mortar round one of the stones, with a pocket knife, to burn, he says, and not removing a stone from the inner tier of the wall and then performing the same operation on the next stone, so as to be well shot between the Penn Yard he scaled by the assistance of a ladder, which he appears to be handy in doing in the yard. He appears to have been peculiarly fortunate in escaping the search of the constables on that side of the North Branch, to the mouth of Salmon's creek, a distance of 5,000 To extend the Pennsylvania rail-road to Marietta, so as to avoid the inclined plane at Columbia, 40,000

Excerpts from Prison.—A correspondent at Trenton, Indiana, writes to the Cincinnati Gazette on Saturday last, that, "a desperate rogue by the name of Conoil, alias Clark, escaped from the State Prison last night, by the fact that the guard was supposed to be a perfectly safe depository for all evil-doers. He effected his escape by picking out the mortar round one of the stones, with a pocket knife, which he soon burnt, and removing a stone from the inner tier of the wall and then performing the same operation on the next stone, so as to be well shot between the Penn Yard he scaled by the assistance of a ladder, which he appears to be handy in doing in the yard. He appears to have been peculiarly fortunate in escaping the search of the constables on that side of the North Branch, to the mouth of Salmon's creek, a distance of 5,000 To extend the Pennsylvania rail-road to Marietta, so as to avoid the inclined plane at Columbia, 40,000

Another new Invention.—The fire-arm invented by Cochrane we thought to be beyond improvement, but we were mistaken. At the Washington Metropolitan, Baron Hacket has invented a machine which will supersede even the celebrated principle of Cochrane, Hall & Colt. The Metropolitan says:—

"It resembles the ordinary musket in appearance, without the addition of the lock, and is composed of a barrel and breech. The latter is raised and lowered by means of a moveable screw, which enters upon two grooves in the breech, and by the trigger, supply the places of hammer, pan and lock. The cartridge is put in the breech when only to be shut down again to prevent the powe loaded, cocked, and ready for discharge. It will carry ball and shot, and is intended for an indefinite number of times, without taking the musket from position.

The musket, it is said, carries further and requires less powder than any other arm in use—it can be loaded with fixed bayonet and fired repeatedly in the face of a cavalry charge, without removing it from the shoulder, no advantage which requires no explanation to a military man; it can with perfect ease be loaded on horseback at full gallop; can be applied with equal advantage to cannon, muskets, rifles, fowling pieces and pistols; and with ease it may be fixed to the saddle in a manner to be concealed.

EPITOME OF THE TIMES.

We learn that the $1100, lost by Messrs. E. & C. P. Fisher, and for which a reward was offered, has been found. The Bucks County Firemen's manufacturer of Venetian blinds, screws, &c. in the room of the United States Library street, Bank, instantly restored the amount to the owners.

Imports at Philadelphia.—There were imported at Philadelphia during the last year 11,-000 tons of sugar, 1,000 tons of molasses, 1,000 tons of iron, 500 tons black tea, 137 tons indigo, 915 tons raisins, prunes and figs, 39 tons of black pepper, and 1,000 Bonds barrels of salt. The rest of the list is not given.

The North Branch Canal, Pennsylvania, is already finished as far up as Pittston, at the mouth of the Lackawane, 75 miles below the State Line. Of the seventy five, forty miles commencing at the state line, and thence running downwards are under contract. The remaining distance will be commenced next summer.

The Cincinnati Gazette of the 11th inst. states that the Miami Canal is fully open to Dayton and the canal. The set was accompanied without alarming the passengers or driver, and next morning the trunks were found in the road, and the contents in the field of their contents.

One of the subordinates in the Post Office at Concord, has been detected in stealing letters containing money. He has acknowledged having stolen fifteen hundred dollars.

Horrid affair—if true.—The Portland Advertiser says, we are informed that a man has been arrested in Raymond or Poland and is undergoing an examination before a Magistrate, on the charge of murdering his own wife, and that the evidence is strong against him. It is said he had been in the habitof illicit intercourse. Both females are supposed to have been effected by poison.

Murders in New Jersey.—The New Jersey Legislature have offered a reward of one thousand dollars for the apprehension of the State *five million one hundred thousand dollars*, stolen from the banking capital of the State *five million one hundred thousand dollars*, stolen from the banking capital of the State *five million one hundred thousand dollars*, stolen from the banking capital of the State twenty six banks, the whole capital of which is $7,265,000, and the amount paid in $5,100,000. The liberality of our citizens had presented to her husband in token of his gallantry, now earns a scanty subsistence at the Departments at Washington.

The appointments in the Legislature of Maryland, in favor of extending the franking privilege to members of the State Legislature, has fallen out to receive the addresses of any man who is not a confirmed toe-to-taller.—*Chester Courant.*

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A French paper says that "amongst the numerous speculations of the day, we have heard of a Joint Stock Company, for the purpose of insu

Attention! Abentees!

The petitions issued below will please let us know per present address, having removed from their late residence, without giving us information. We have a few communications to make to each of them.

[illegible] 114 north Second street.
[illegible] Water, N. York.
[illegible] Sprout, st. N. Brunswick, N.J.
[illegible] 20 north Fourth street.
[illegible] do do
[illegible] do do
[illegible] Pottsville, Penn.
[illegible] Portsmouth, Ohio.
[illegible] Water, N. York.
[illegible] 42 Minerva st.
[illegible] 3 N. Second st.
[illegible] Nanshannock, N. J.
[illegible] Mendon, Monroe co. Connecticut.
[illegible] 20 north Second street.
[illegible] Bleeking Town, Jersey.
[illegible] 11th and Willow.
[illegible] 20 north Fourth street.
[illegible] 20 North Fourth street.
[illegible] Cincinnati, Ohio.
[illegible] Fourteenth street, Philadelphia.
[illegible] Four Mile Branch, S. C.
[illegible] Cincinnati, Ohio.
[illegible] Dorsey, N. Jersey.
[illegible] Fourth street, Philadelphia.
[illegible] Red Horse, Virginia.
[illegible] Mendon, Monroe co. N. York.
[illegible] Deerfield, Virginia.
[illegible] Fourth street, Philadelphia.
[illegible] Thorndyke, Very nia.
[illegible] Fourth street, Philadelphia.
[illegible] Philadelphia.
[illegible] 94 Hudson st. N. York.
[illegible] Phoenix street, Philadelphia.
[illegible] 20 north Fourth street.
[illegible] 20 north Fourth street.
[illegible] 94 Hudson st. N. York.
[illegible] Fourth street, above Callowhill st.
[illegible] Fifteen miles from Philadelphia.
[illegible] at Exchange Place Newark, N. J.
[illegible] 42 Minerva st.
[illegible] Nantucket, Penn.
[illegible] 20 north Fourth street.

ATKINSON'S SATURDAY EVENING POST.

PHILADELPHIA

Saturday, February 25, 1837.

AGENCY.

Mr. Martin Thomas has been appointed agent for Atkinson's periodicals at Washington, North Carolina. Those residing in this vicinity will please account to him in settlement.

Horace Mansfield, agent at New Haven, Ct. at place of H. A. Foote, resigned.

COURTESIES.

Our thanks are due to Messrs. Agnew, the Postmasters and citizens particularly in Berks, Dauphin, Lehigh, Lycoming, Schuylkill and Union counties, for their kindness and attention in our speedy travelling agent *William A. Pierce, in* the late collecting excursion in the Northern part of Pennsylvania. Mr. Pierce expresses a grateful sense of the kindness which he has received generally by our friends in those counties, and their prompt civilities whenever he or other power to aid him in the pursuit of his business.

NEW MUSEUM.

The directors of the Philadelphia Museum are about erecting a new and splendid building for the accommodation of that prize of the enterprise of our city, the Museum, founded by Charles Wilson Peale.

The lot selected for the new building is at the corner of Ninth and George streets, extending on George street 237 feet, upon which it is contemplated to erect one of the largest buildings in our country, after designs admirably adapted to the purposes of the Museum, and in which its extensive collections will be displayed in a manner worthy of their extent and interest, and which will, we presume, be no doubt, an ornament to the city."

We had an opportunity during this week, of viewing a curious relic of the "olden time." It is a large and splendid coat of mail, of a bright blue colour, which was worn by Charles the bold, Duke of Burgundy, in 1476, at the battle of Morat. This battle was fought on the same day, and within the same name, about 14 miles west of Berne, between the troops of this Duke, and the soldiers of the Swiss confederacy. The former were defeated with great slaughter; the Duke in that precipitation, that the armour of their leader was left behind, and during the confusion and retreat, fell into the hands of the gen. now about two years since, some fishermen, dragging the lake with their nets, brought up the armour of which we speak, and which is the one we are mentioned, set in the centre. It was purchased at a high rate by a gentleman of this city, then travelling through Switzerland, and is now in his possession. The coat of mail is remarkable for beauty, and without flaw, though as might be expected, its bastre is somewhat dimmed by the exposure of 360 years to the action of the water.

The Ball of the Lafayette Club on the 22d inst. is honoured with an attendance of female beauty and loveliness that has seldom been exceeded on any occasion of a similar nature. The general effect of the variety of costume, displayed on the occasion. The large and handsome saloon of the Masonic Hall, was filled to its utmost capacity, by the company present, and the arrangements for enjoyments of the evening. The managers of the *fete*, deserve the highest praise for their assiduity in getting up so splendid a ball, and for the ability with which their duties were sustained throughout the evening.

Young Hamblin has made a successful point at a single Star in the galaxy of beauty, that most additional lustre to the gay scene. We however are decidedly of opinion that the *belle* of the evening was Miss——. The fair reader of this, were there, may rest perfectly assured that it is herself, we allude to—and if she were not, that she would have been, had she been present.

The Horticultural Society of this city has offered a premium of 500 dollars for the discovery of the best method of preserving the bulb of pear trees, and 450, for preventing mildew on strawberries.

The XIV. number of the uniform edition of Golding's works, published by the Harpers, and for sale by Mr. Peterson, is the concluding book of Saint Nicholas. The twelve amusing legends, which form the contents, are a very picturesque offering of the genius of the Chief of Caledonia, for the protection of Mexican persons and property.

"The Pionyone."—A spirited little sheet has just been commenced in New Orleans, entitled "The Pionyone," the office of publication of the post is at No. 26, Gravier street, where the paper may be had at 12½ cents per number, or 6 per cent. every day. Sundays included. Among many other good things. It thus notices a paragraph of a New York contemporary.

"Every emigrant that settles in Michigan, or the Western States and Territories, adds to the swell the commerce, wealth, and importance of New York. Such is the fact, and such the reason for the climate, position, and peculiar character of that inland mart," will always form one of her chief sources of prosperity."—*N. Y. Herald.*

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Statistics of Crime.—Returns of Court of Quarter Sessions for the city and county of Philadelphia, during the year past, there were tried in all three hundred and twenty six cases, of which the majority are for larceny, one hundred and fifty three; about four fifths found guilty, and the remainder acquitted.

Alarge.—A case was a few days ago decided in the District Court at Philadelphia, which settles an important point to corporations, and citizens—that if captains and owners of vessels, discharging goods on a wharf, do not give notice of it to the consignees, until too late an hour in the day to enable him to store them, they are responsible for the damages that may be sustained by the exposure.

BLIGHT IN PEAR TREES.

Mr. Samuel Reere of Salem, N. J. has discovered a method of preventing the inroads of this dangerous disease, which has so often proved fatal to the hopes of the enterprising farmer and horticulturist. The result of his observations which present an entirely novel view of the subject, were read before a meeting of the horticultural Society held in this city on the 31st inst. It will be observed that the experiments of Mr. R. refer principally to the pear tree, as that is more liable to the disease, but the remedy, and the rising duties on Dutch and Belgian vessels—to regulate the punishment of crimes committed against the state of United States—were read a third time and passed.

Mr. Reere observes in substance, that from a series of experiments he had been enabled to check the Blight in Pear trees for a number of years, by finding the disease to originate from the root, which being in relation to one species of nature absorbs moisture very rapidly, and if the wood of the pear grafted thereon, be also of a porous nature, a rapid growth is the consequence, which is followed by such pear trees outstrip others of a more close, or compact wood: the latter he has found not to blight so far as grafted, as the former do.

The Pear tree requires a soil that is of an even cool temperature of moisture, the sudden transition from wet to dry predisposing the tree to blight. Other causes of it when the tree has been in constant tillage, with a sudden transition of the sun, and, always terminating in blight in a greater or less degree.

Mr. R. says he has seen the blight attack them after accustomed to stand in sward by a sudden exposure by ploughing, and that in all cases the pear tree does best by keeping the ground cool, and in an even temperature of moisture.

Many other fruit trees will bear all the substance they require to grow to and dry well, both with tillage and without it. But not so with the pear, the sap flowing through the porous pear wood in such a way as to require a supply of sun's rays though a thick bottom water, or coloured green with oxide on the alkaline, and light then separated yellow, with a green contrasted by lemon or rect ray, the most delicate portion of the sap is then as method gives the exact command of atmosphere as he has of the pear tree.

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SYNOPSIS OF CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

IN SENATE, Feb. 15.

Petitions praying the abolition of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia, were presented by Messrs. Swift, Morris and Tomlinson, and the reception being objected to, the motion to receive was laid on the table.

Bills amendatory of the judicial system of the United States—the act to promote the useful arts—to establish a foundery or armory in the West—to regulate the duties on Dutch vessels—fixing duties on Dutch and Belgian vessels—to regulate the punishment of crimes committed against the United States—were read a third time and passed.

Feb. 16th.—A Bill for the continuation of the Cumberland Road in the State of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

A Bill to make payment or compensation to militia or volunteers of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi—were read a third time and passed.

Feb. 17th.—The Chair presented a memorial from the citizens of Washington praying for the rebuilding of the Post Office.

Several abolition petitions were presented by Mr. Wall, Mr. Ewing of Ohio, Mr. Webster and Mr. Prentiss, which were objected to, and the motion to receive on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Wright gave notice that on Monday he should move to take the Tariff Bill up for discussion.

Feb. 18th.—Mr. Benton laid before the Senate the credentials of Mr. Linn, elected a Senator for the United States from Missouri, for the term of six years from the 4th day of March next.

A bill to remit the duties on certain goods destroyed by fire at the late conflagration at N. York was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Robbins moved to postpone the previous orders for the purpose of taking up the joint resolution of Mr. Preston, expressing the thanks for the purchase of the Mss. of the late Mr. Madison. The motion was agreed to, ayes 22. The resolutions appropriates 30,000 dollars for the purchase.

Feb. 20th.—The joint resolution authorizing the purchase of the MSS. of the late Jas. Madison, was read a third time, and finally passed by a vote of 27 to 14.

Feb. 21st.—Mr. Davis and Mr. Knight presented the petitions praying for and dry dock at Newport, with tillage and without it. But not so with the pear, the sap flowing through the porous pear wood in such a way as to require a supply of sun's rays though a thick bottom water, or coloured green with oxide on the alkaline, and light then separated yellow, with a green contrasted by lemon or rect ray, the most delicate portion of the sap is then as method gives the exact command of atmosphere as he has of the pear tree.

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The lot selected for the new building is at the corner of Ninth and George streets, extending on George street 237 feet, upon which it is contemplated to erect one of the largest buildings in our country, after designs admirably adapted to the purposes of the Museum, and in which its extensive collections will be displayed in a manner worthy of their extent and interest, and which will, we presume, be no doubt, an ornament to the city."

We had an opportunity during this week, of viewing a curious relic of the "olden time." It is a large and splendid coat of mail, of a bright blue colour, which was worn by Charles the bold, Duke of Burgundy, in 1476, at the battle of Morat. This battle was fought on the same day, and within the same name, about 14 miles west of Berne, between the troops of this Duke, and the soldiers of the Swiss confederacy. The former were defeated with great slaughter; the Duke in that precipitation, that the armour of their leader was left behind, and during the confusion and retreat, fell into the hands of the gen. about two years since, some fishermen, dragging the lake with their nets, brought up the armour of which we speak, and which is the one we are mentioned, set in the centre. It was purchased at a high rate by a gentleman of this city, then travelling through Switzerland, and is now in his possession. The coat of mail is remarkable for beauty, and without flaw, though as might be expected, its bastre is somewhat dimmed by the exposure of 360 years to the action of the water.

The Ball of the Lafayette Club on the 22d inst. is honoured with an attendance of female beauty and loveliness that has seldom been exceeded on any occasion of a similar nature. The general effect of the variety of costume, displayed on the occasion. The large and handsome saloon of the Masonic Hall, was filled to its utmost capacity, by the company present, and the arrangements for enjoyments of the evening. The managers of the *fete*, deserve the highest praise for their assiduity in getting up so splendid a ball, and for the ability with which their duties were sustained throughout the evening.

Young Hamblin has made a successful point at a single Star in the galaxy of beauty, that most additional lustre to the gay scene. We however are decidedly of opinion that the *belle* of the evening was Miss——. The fair reader of this were there, may rest perfectly assured that it is herself, we allude to—and if she were not, that she would have been, had she been present.

The Horticultural Society of this city has offered a premium of 500 dollars for the discovery of the best method of preserving the bulb of pear trees, and 450, for preventing mildew on strawberries.

The XIV. number of the uniform edition of Golding's works, published by the Harpers, and for sale by Mr. Peterson, is the concluding Book of Saint Nicholas. The twelve amusing legends, which form the contents, are a very picturesque offering of the genius of the Chief of Caledonia, for the protection of Mexican persons and property.

"The Pionyone."—A spirited little sheet has just been commenced in New Orleans, entitled "The Pionyone," the office of publication of the post is at No. 26, Gravier street, where the paper may be had at 12½ cents per number, or 6 per cent. every day. Sundays included. Among many other good things. It thus notices a paragraph of a New York contemporary.

"Every emigrant that settles in Michigan, or the Western States and Territories, adds to the swell the commerce, wealth, and importance of New York. Such is the fact, and such the reason for the climate, position, and peculiar character of that inland mart," will always form one of her chief sources of prosperity."—*N. Y. Herald.*

Bennett boasts of the cast in his eye as a beauty, therefore he is about right. He throws over the map of the United States, and more especially the fertile and magnificent valley of the Mississippi, and enumerate to his contemplation the following items which help to "make the commerce, wealth, and importance" of New Orleans. *For example*; some 12,000 miles of navigable waters, bringing down annually to some dozen States; from which float down some thousand steamboats, freighted with some millions of commercial produce! *look straight* at this, Mr. Bennett, for this time, there is in fact some about our prospectus.

Statistics of Crime.—Returns of Court of Quarter Sessions for the city and county of Philadelphia, during the year past, there were tried in all three hundred and twenty six cases, of which the majority are for larceny, one hundred and fifty three; about four fifths found guilty, and the remainder acquitted.

Alarge.—A case was a few days ago decided in the District Court at Philadelphia, which settles an important point to corporations, and citizens—that if captains and owners of vessels, discharging goods on a wharf, do not give notice of it to the consignees, until too late an hour in the day to enable him to store them, they are responsible for the damages that may be sustained by the exposure.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

From our Correspondent at Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, Feb. 21, 1837.

The matters of general interest transacted by the Legislature since my last, are as follows.

Feb. 15.—The Senate passed through final reading, bills to incorporate the Gettysburg and Chambersburg, Rail Road Company, and to incorporate the Lebanon Sugar Beet and Silk Company. In the House, Mr. Darsie reported a bill, to incorporate the Western Pennsylvania Hospital Society. The Harrisburg and Susquehanna Rail Road, came up for final passage. An effort was made to postpone it, to enable the Senate and Governor to pass the bill, to prevent the U. S. Bank, from taking stock in other Government companies. Yes, this sage and proper step was taken by several of the pro-bank *tenders*, to destroy the U. S. Bank, but the friends of internal improvement, would, not in the soundness of their discretion, consent to this ruinous measure, and the bill passed 53 yeas, to 32 nays.

Feb. 16.—In Senate, the Committee on Education, reported a bill to incorporate the Dickinson College. Bills passed, to incorporate the Philadelphia Canal Company, and to charter the "Society of Belles Lettre," at Carlisle—Belles-Lettre Society. The object of getting a charter for this society, is, to adopt laws to take by testament, and to perpetuate the gifts which have frequently made to the society by wealthy persons. In the House, Mr. Espy offered a resolution, to call up the bill, to charter the Bank of the State, but it would not pass. Indeed there is not a great anti-bank mania here, except with a few leaders. The Committee on Internal Improvements, reported the annual appropriation bill. You will see by a synopsis in the "Reporter" that it is on a scale of magnitude befitting the State—liberal, but not lavish. Instead of its being a great part defeated, by the less liberal majority in the House. The Pittsburg and Lughlinsburg Rail Road was not considered, but on decisive vote taken, except to make Lughlinsburg the starting place, instead of the road.

Feb. 17.—Business of the two Houses unimportant. The Committee appointed to investigate certain charges against the U. S. Bank, had similar resolutions offered, by Messrs. Darsie, Clerk, and O. P. Johnson appointed. Mr. E. F. Pennypacker, chairman of the Committee returned thanks the last session, was called as a witness. Mr. P. stated that he had no charges to make, but proposed—that he did not believe this Legislature could call upon a member of the last, to testify as to the motives and manner by which any of the last was passed; that he wished to place his views on this point on the minutes of the committee, and asked for time to prepare them. Mr. Darsie opposed—Mr. King excused from testifying for the present.

Feb. 18.—The committee met again, but no business. The House passed a bill to perfect the Registry law, yeas 18, nays 12. Mr. Darsie reported the Revision of the Statutes relative to Arts and Sciences of Pittsburg. In the House, the Philadelphia and Lughlinsburg rail road bill, passed a second reading; and the Pittsburg and Connellsville through a second and third reading.

Feb. 20.—The Senate negatived the bill to repeal the Usury Law, 24 to 3. In the House the above named rail road bill passed its final reading.

The bank investigating committee examined Mr. Pennypacker, after he had read his paper, but nothing of the least importance was elicited. He stated in substance that some time in December, 1835, he visited the city of Philadelphia, in company with his friends, Thomas Cunningham and Samuel Linn, by Mr. Biddle's house—voluntarily and without the solicitation of any person. While there something was said relative to the bank of the United States applying for a charter. Mr. Biddle remarked that the bank would not apply for a new charter, where, and if one was tendered and taken from them, as the Legislature was then acting upon the Pennsylvania sooner than from any other state, for he felt an interest in the prosperity of his native state. The conversation was general, not upon the commercial and internal improvement interests.

This conversation on his return, he stated to Mr. John B. Wilson, who was associated with him in the letter to Mr. Biddle, referred to by that gentleman in his first letter to John Q. Adams, dated Nov. 30, in reply to that letter, in which they received an answer from Mr. Biddle, which stated generally, how much a Pennsylvania bank could pay for a charter. The ball was afterwards discussed by Messrs. Stevens to the committee on Internal Improvements—a passel, chartering the bank with a premium considerably higher than that offered by Mr. Biddle.

The committee then adjourned to Friday next. Feb. 21.—The Senate refused to take up for reading, the bill to repair the public works.—They also adopted a resolution to print 2000 copies in English, and 3000 in German of the farewell address of General Washington, for circulation.

In the House, a bill was reported to incorporate the Girard Canal Bank, and a resolution passed to have the farewell address read to-morrow, and the hour fixed for the purpose.

LAWS OF THE WEATHER.

The following paragraph has frequently appeared recently in the daily papers. As we could not attend the lecture on the subject by Mr. Espy, we can only say that it is proper to call the truth of his discovery. The discovery if made is new and extraordinary, that we suspect some time will elapse before it is generally believed.

Important Discovery.—A gentleman of this city has lately made a discovery in the laws of storms which has been made since the days of Franklin—he has discovered *the Lows* which govern the weather! This great secret has been thanked have been for thousands of years endeavoring to penetrate, has been found out by James P. Espy, Esq. Like most other operations of nature, it is ascertained that the weather is governed by fixed unalterable laws—simple, easily explained, and easily understood.

He can inform a navigator of a vessel how to tell whether there is a storm raging any where within the hundred miles of him, and how to steer her steer to get just as far into the storm as he wishes and no farther—in case just as much or as little wind as he pleases.

He can inform him how always to obtain a smooth sea and moderate wind, and how to ascertain the exact height of the base of a cloud and whether it is likely to produce rain, hail, or wind, and how he must steer if he would avoid it.

Martinique.—The following is an extract from the St. Vincent Gazette, giving an account of a deplorable event which recently took place in that island.

About nine o'clock yesterday, a most melancholy circumstance occurred by which two fine lives were lost, some of them respectable characters. A warm Spring having been given the covered running between two high rocks in the heights near Pierrefonds, at the north end of the bay, whose medicinal properties had led to be a specific cleanser of cutaneous disorders, has of late been much resorted to by all classes as a bathing place, who daily experience its salutary effects. As a peculiarity cannot be questioned, but during a heavy roll of thunder in the mountains which is heard of these rocks burst forth, bringing down sand, stones, and rocks of all sizes and descriptions, overwhelming every one within its influence. Several persons were unmangled in a horrid manner, have been got out; but many more are still supposed to be covered up. Madame Lanoueve, wife of the Collector, and two children, were near the edge of the stream, miraculously escaped; an interesting young lady was so much disfigured, that she could only be recognized by the ring on her finger. An examination has taken place, by the Judge of the district sent hastily for from the mountains. Several of the sufferers being relations of respectable families, has caused a deep and mournful sensation. One poor girl was found yesterday morning by the Rev. Mr. Sawkins, and is now under the care of Mrs. Mary Ann Sawkins, who is attending her wounds.

Mutiny and Murder.—The New Orleans correspondent writes, that on the 5th of January, Mr. Henriques, who kept an extensive retail dry goods store in Broadway, fortunately disappeared, and carried off 20 or $20,000 worth of goods with him. The fact was discovered by his friends spread a report that he had gone to the South by Philadelphia, and some of his creditors applied to the officer in pursuit. The officer started but on further inquiry by Mr. Smith, it turned out that Henriques, accompanied by two ladies, had sailed on Tuesday last in a schooner for Pensacola, and thither Mr. Smith was preparing to follow him, but on Saturday morning learned that a schooner which had sailed for Porto Rico, had agreed to put back on account of being injured by the ice and was then coming into Coffee House Slip. Mr. Smith immediately went there, and having ascertained that Henriques was on board, he applied to the office of the sheriff, who accompanied him to the schooner, and took Henriques into custody, and in the course of the day he was examined before Judge Irving, and committed to prison under the Sullwell act. Mr. Smith subsequently stated that Henriques had found fifteen large cases of goods on board, which have been secured for the creditors

THE OLIO

Variety's the spice of Life,
That gives it all its flavour.

SETTING UP AND SETTING DOWN.

A chap once told St. Patrick's Dean,
While rising from his seat, "I mean
To set up for a wit."
"Ah!" quoth the Dean, "if that be true,
The very best thing you can do,
Is down again to sit."

Too many, like that would-be wit,
Set up for what they are not fit,
And always lose their aim:—
Set up for wisdom, wealth, renown,
But end the farce by sitting down,
With poverty and shame.

A middling farmer thinks he can
Set up to be a gentleman,
And then sit down content:
But after many a turn and twist,
In set down on the purple list,
A fool, not worth a cent!

When farmers' wives and daughter's die,
Set up with silks and Leghorns rare,
To look most wondrous winning,
They set upon a slippery stand,
Till indigence, with iron hand,
Upon their backs comes sitting.

Some fools set up to live by law
And though they are "all over jaw,"
Soon fail for lack of brains:
But had the bootless only just
Known where they ought to sit at first,
They'd ne'er a word spoken.

A quack sets up the doctor's trade,
But could he see the Saviour's spade
No better than his pills,
The man might toil from morn to night,
And find his watch, with all his might,
To bury half he kills.

You envy as? up for what you choose
As easily as wear old shoes,
If e'er so low at present;
But when you have set up it can,
And find you as at sit down again,
'Tis terribly unpleasant.

"What's the matter with your eye?" said a gentleman the other day to an honest countryman who looked as if he had been playing at fisty cuffs.

"Och, it has been put out, knocked out, annihilated, *expunged*."

"How can that be?" replied the other, "Can't you see with it?"

"Oh yes, I can see with it: but for all that it is *expunged*. Don't you see the *black ring* around it?"

AN ORIGINAL ANECDOTE.—During the exciting times in this country previous to the declaration of the war of 1812—unfortunately for the British national honor, a member of the Rhode Island Legislature, Mr. Rhodes, had a quarrel with a United States senator about a *Hog*. This candidate was opposed to the war—he lost his election by a single vote—Mr. Rhodes rotting for his opponent—who went to Washington, and supported all war measures—and finally, voting for declaration, the parties were exactly even—the decision passed by the casting vote of Mr. Vice President; and so Mr. Rhodes' hog was the occasion of the late war, and cost the U. S. eighty millions of dollars.

A DANDEL OF AGE.—In France it is necessary to obtain the consent of the parents of both parties, if living, before any marriage can be contracted. At the civil tribunal of Seine, a widow of fifty-two was opposed by her father and mother, the court however, decreed that she had arrived at the years of discretion.

POLITENESS.—A boy was recently employed to attend with his donkey upon a lady at a watering port, who wished to ride out. There being no appearance of rain the lady declined paying for the stipulated charge, observing, that it was all the same whether she rode or not. "No, Madame," answered the boy, looking very sentimental, "it is not all the same for I shall not have the honor of your company."

A LONG REASON.—The Portlander says that the reason why the Vermont and New Hampshire boys are so tall, is because they are in the habit of drawing themselves up so as to peep over the mountains to see the sun rise. It is dreadful stretching work.

Business Anecdote.—Messrs. Bowden & Masters, two English riders, meeting one night in their travels, the conversation over the bottle turned on the extensive business carried on by their respective houses. Bowden, jealous to prove the superiority of his own, enumerated many extraordinary instances, and finally wound up his climax with saying, "that the business of his house was so extensive, that in their correspondence only, it cost them 150*l.* yearly for the article of ink." Masters replied, "Why, Bowden, do you advance that as a proof of your superiority to your house?" "I do," said Bowden. "Poo, poo, man!" says Masters, "why we sure that sum yearly in our house, by omitting dots to the I's and strokes to the T's."

COUNSELLOR CURRAN AND JUDGE ROBINSON.—Mr. Curran having observed in some cause before this Judge, that he had never met the law as laid down by his lordship, in any book in his library; "That may be his," said the Judge in an acrid contemptuous tone, "but I suspect that your library is very small." His lordship, who, like too many of late time, was a party politician, was known to be the author of several anonymous political pamphlets, which were chiefly conspicuous for their despotic principles and excessive violence. The young barrister, roused by the sneer at his circumstances, replied, "that it was, that his library might be small, but he thanked heaven that among his books, there were none of the wretched productions of the venal trimmer of the day. I find it more instructive, my lord, to study good works than to compose bad ones; my books may be few but the title pages give the writer's names: my shelf is not disgraced by any such rank absurdities that their very authors are ashamed to own them." He was here interrupted by the Judge, who said, "Sir, you are forgetting the respect which you owe to the dignity of the Judicial character. "Dignity" exclaimed Mr. Curran, "my lord, upon that point I shall give you a case from a book of some authority, with which you are perhaps not unacquainted." A story is then related upon his arrival in London, (thinking himself invested by a stranger, and imagining that he was the stronger man, resolved to resent the affront and taking off his coat, delivered it to a bystander to hold, but leaving but the knife, he returned to resume his garment, when he discovered that he had inadvertently laid aside that part of the practice of his habitations had decamped during the affray. So my lord, when the person who is invested with the dignity of the judgment seat, lays it aside for a moment, to enter into a disgraceful personal contest, it is no train, when he has been worsted in the encounter, that he seeks to resume it, as vain that he endeavors to put a soldier himself from behind an authority which he has abandoned."

Judge Robinson—"If you say another word, sir, I'll commit you."

Mr. Curran—"Then, my lord, it will be the best thing you'll have committed this term."

A DUCHESS'S REVENGE.—Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, had still, at an advanced age, considerable claims to beauty; most dark, piercing eyes, and the finest hair hair imaginable, the colour of which she said she had preserved unchanged by the constant use of honey-water—hardly such an ingredient now sold, for Gunter is an unlucky aptitude to turn the hair gray. By this superb head of hair hung a tale, an instance of her waywardness and violence, which (not to say) she took particular pleasure in telling. None of her charms was she more proud of than prudent height, had been so finely prized by the poet Duker, her husband. Therefore one day, upon his offending her by some act of disrespect, she called her attendants, "the tallest, bright thought occurred, as she sate considering how she could plague him most, that it would be a heavy vexation to see his favorite tresses cut off. Instantly the deed was done; she crept on tiptoe about and laid them on a side cushion of her be most pass through to enter her apartment. But, her cruel disappointment, when he passed, entered, and reproached, calm enough to provoke a saint; neither angry nor sorrowful: seemingly quite unconscious both of his crime and of his punishment. Concluding he must have overlooked the hair, she ran to secure it. Lo! it had vanished,—and she remained in great perplexity the rest of the day. The next, as he continued silent, and her looking-glass spoke the change, a resolve one, she began for once to think she had done rather a foolish thing. Nothing more ever transpired upon the subject until after the Duke's death, when she found her beautiful ringlets carefully laid by in a cabinet, where he kept whatever he held most precious: and at this point of the story she regularly fell a crying.—*Lord Wharncliffe's Correspondence of Lady Mary W. Montagu.*

THE CUNNING FISHERMAN.

The following eastern tale, written by L. G. Wilkins, Esq., is from Leigh Hunt's Book of Beauty, a superb English annual, for 1837.

There was a fisherman, who, by dint of occupation and supported a large family by the sale of what he caught; he was clever and well versed in all cunning which is common in the East, and to which, necessity frequently obliged him to have recourse. He had had the good fortune to catch a kheref, of a size rarely met with in that species; and thinking it a pity that so fine a fish should be cut into small portions for the market to suit the convenience of ordinary customers, he resolved on presenting it to his sovereign; and repaired with this proud specimen of his sport, to the royal palace. No sooner had he entered the door beneath the sitting room of the sultan, that he was summoned to appear before him, and to explain the object of his visit. "Fisherman," said the fisherman, "has given me this fine kheref, which appeared to me of such uncommon size and beauty, that I scrupled to send it to market, and knowing that no one's table was so well suited to receive it as your majesty's, I have brought it here in the first heat, and to beg you to accept it." "Mashoot, Mashoot—a gift is welcome," said the sultan—"Here are a hundred gold pieces for your trouble and prosper." The grateful and delighted fisherman always kept from that time, and afterwards retired but scarcely had he left the presence when the sultan upraised her husband for his extravagant generosity. "How," said she, "could you think of giving the man a hundred gold pieces for a paltry fish? A hundred sequins! Would not one be much more than it is worth? Had you given him five, the present would have been quite enough and he would have had cause to bless you, and to pray that your days might be as long but to throw away 100 mahboobs in such a manner is absurd. I have no patience with you; men have no discretion. Do call him back, and take them from him. I desire that you do." "How," said the Sultan, "can I take away a gift? it would be unworthy of a monarch." "Not at all: has not he who gives a right to reclaim his gift?" "A right yes, but how mean would it be. Would it not be said that Sultan Mahmoud was ungenerous and did know his own mind?" "Well, then," said the Sultana, "make some excuse; but take them back." "Yet what excuse," said the Sultan, "can I make; what can I say?" "Say oh, ask him the bulk, I mean or female; and if he tells you it is a female, say you wanted a male." The fisherman was sent for and brought back. "Tell me," said the Sultan, "is that fish a male or female?" "I beg your majesty's pardon, it would be a disgrace to my beard if I spoke an untruth of this kind of fish is both male and female." The Sultan could not help smiling; the fisherman saved five hundred mahboobs, and the plan of the angry Sultana were defeated. Not long afterwards the fisherman was aware of the snare that had been laid for him, and admiring the ingenuous manner in which he had extricated himself, the Sultan doubled the present, and once more dismissed him, and a happier wife and family. The indignation of the Sultana was excessive; all complaint, love-gifts, and so was, and she was satisfied. The fisherman walked slowly across the court, carrying the sack which contained the fish over his shoulder, but leaving one of the gold coins fall upon the hard ground, he stopped to look for it; and after searching some time, found it; and proceeded on his way. "Look," said the Sultana, observe the avarice of that wretch: one mahboob fell from his bag, and not contented with the hundred and ninety-nine it threatened he had the meanness to stop, to pick it up, and even to fail in searching for it. Could he not have left the paltry piece of silver who in the indignation of the Sultana was excessive; all complaint, love-gifts, and so was, and she was satisfied. The fisherman walked slowly across the court, carrying the sack which contained the fish over his shoulder, but leaving one of the gold coins fall upon the hard ground, he stopped to look for it; and after searching some time, found it; and proceeded on his way. "Look," said the Sultana, observe the avarice of that wretch: one mahboob fell from his bag, and not contented with the hundred and ninety-nine it threatened he had the meanness to stop, to pick it up, and even to fail in searching for it. Could he not have left the paltry piece of silver who in the chance to pass that way, and find it? What a vile monster! Do put him back, and take it away from him. I would have him bastinadoed." "Be not severe, my love," said the sultan, "it would be too lenient for such a sordid creature. By your head! I—" "Well, you shall be satisfied. I recall to think the punishment will be severe punishment, and the money shall be taken from him." The fisherman was sent for, and brought again into the royal presence. "Why," said the sultan, "could you not leave the one mahboob which fell to the ground, and rest contented with the hundred and ninety-nine that remained? Could you not spare it if for some one who, accidently passing that way, might lawfully claim it as a gift from the gods? Is it good for you so covetous? and that, too, after all my liberality to you?" "It was purely in the contemplation," replied the fisherman, "to have done as you suggest. I was actually pursuing my way, resolved to leave the coin where I left it, when it occurred to me that your majesty's sacred head might be annoyed and disturbed by the sight of it, and thought that if any one happened inadvertently to find it, they might neglect to restore the gift. With this reply, the sultan was delighted; and inwardly commending his own sagacity, proceeded on him with another two hundred mahboobs.—Many years of happiness, free from the imprudent interference of the queen, he passed, a proclamation was issued, in which it was enacted that no one should enter into the advice of his wife: a proclamation which, if rumor be true, has been of late years renewed upon occasion, but it were rather more than it increased it with the husbands throughout his empire, and led to acts of insurrection in public, and insubordination in private.

"The Scotsman," an Edinburgh paper, speaks of an apple produced in the garden of Dalkeith weighed sixteen ounces, and measured 17 inches in circumference. Another Scotch paper has sent had weighed 19¼ ounces. This indeed is something for "Auld Caledonia" to brag of, and that Scotch apple is the very thing for Sandy Gardener to look at it, such a production would be found in Gardener's Hall, and if not there in Scotland, where the glorious Newtonian Gravity.

"What is benevolence!" said a little girl to us the other morning. "Why, my dear, we usually understand by the course of Miss Carey's school ladies, you perceive that coal or woodashes have been sprinkled on the walk to prevent you from slipping down, you may rest assured that the intention of that house are possessed of benevolence, for which is a desire to do good people to do good, and wherever it exists, it will be found to be accompanied by those little acts of kindness towards fellow creatures.

Experiments have convinced me that where there is a will there is a way, and that a way which is most favourably placed for its reception. Its hearers are always equally pleased, with their ears may continue himself of this by a simple experiment. On taking a watch in the right hand, and passing it before the left ear, that will be heard distinctly on the right side till upon the ear, when it will be heard on the left side, and little fainter; but when carried onward towards the left, the sound will be heard distinctly on the right ear, and wholly received by the other.—*Webster on the Eye.*

SAGACITY OF BEES.—The instinctive sagacity of the bees, of course, every farmer must have noticed. A curious instance of contrivance in providing their winter stores came under our own notice a few years since. A swarm was sent in this town last fall. A neighbor had taken a swarm early in the season of the town, noticed a contented line of bees passing through the air, from one farm house to another. He followed the advance of the line, and came to its termination, where he found a large tree which had been split by the frost, and there the one he had followed, and another direction, and in each of the separated parts of the tree, by some instinctive understanding between the two swarms, had built united their strength and established a large hive. The straggling bees from them over and the dead and dying bees belonging to both swarms were found around the tree. Honey had been taken out by the conquerors, and the dead bees were left to be removed by something like fifty pounds having been removed, and no less than two quarts in the bottom of the tree, with a black powder called *bohii*.

Spiders.—Of all living creatures, spiders are the most ingenious. Under no circumstances can they continue himself of this by a simple experiment. On taking a watch in the right hand, and passing it before the left ear, that will be heard distinctly on the right side till upon the ear, when it will be heard on the left side, and little fainter; but when carried onward towards the left, the sound will be heard distinctly on the right ear, and wholly received by the other.—*Webster on the Eye.*

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Spiders.—Of all living creatures, spiders are the most ingenious. Under no circumstances can they continue their labors when the air is still and moving. Whenever wishes to use their battles may be observed to be busy at work in the early morning, when the hedges and bushes are swarming with insects, their webs are then set to entangle, and let them down softly by his thread on the centre of another web, where sits a fellow to take notice of the point of attack, and rushes immediately. If a fly or any proper bait be trapped and secured, the lord of the web is brought to the plunder, the battle rages like that of heroes, every thing is done in order, and beats the rest all hollow. In their rage their eyes appear to flash fire, and they will not leave off biting, even when they have no more to bite. It is not generally known that spiders have eight eyes on their heads.

Ancient Rome.—Of a character of architecture and building altogether different from the style of the islanders and of an extent truly astonishing have been discovered by Mr. James T. O'Connor, on a small and apparently uninhabited island one of the Caroline Islands in the Pacific Ocean. It is called Ascension, and is situated to the east of the British shoal of war Bacon, and are thus described.

"The walls are overgrown with bread, cocoanut, and other ancient trees, and the ruins occupy a space of about a mile in length. The stones of these edifices are laid bed and quoin, exhibiting a regularity which is a plain to those nations or the present savage inhabitants. None of them have any mortar, and the walls are formed by three to five each way, and no remains of cement could be found. The number and window places. The ruins are built of stone, and are different from that occurring in the immediate neighborhood. There is a mountain in the Island, the rocks of which are covered with fragments of lava, and the whole island abounds in the interior. The habits of these islanders are described as quite primitive, and that they use the cocoanut for every purpose. Their food is principally fish, and they are entirely ignorant of the use of fire, with a black powder called *bohii*.

Instinct of the Sun.—In very cold and dry summers, in which there is not much rain, it happens that the sun-flowers, which in a moist season will then set a great portion of fruit, particularly that which is in the shade, and which is in large stock of sap to acquire maturity, fail or remain abortive. The whole juice of the plant is then spent in the fruit it will grow, the tree must be thinned of the fruit that appears small, and which will make the fruit grow larger but better, it also will be of use to the tree, for the fruit remaining alone ruined in two or three years, if you do not thin them, for want of the strength of the tree. Peaches, nectarines, and apricots must be thinned in May. Only a little fruit must be suffered to remain on a young tree.

When the heat is great and a continual drought, at the end of July, and during the month of August, it is good to throw around the roots of the trees, with a watering pot, or a bucket or a half bucket of water so as to arouse the sap, and prevent the fruit from falling half grown. Care must be taken to water the roots, the fruit advance very slowly and fall in great quantity. But if you do not water the roots, you must then put water to the foot of the tree, for the fruit will not grow, and will fall in great part at a short distance, so that the water may be better held, cover the earth with leaves or straw, or with the rubbish of the garden, or earth to preserve its freshness.

Do not fail to gather leaves about the end of June clip with a scissors those leaves that surround the fruit, paying attention to the stalk, and by their sap, remove all their leaves from around the fruit, and the dew, rain, and sun may penetrate